Sandusky County
Historical Society

YEAR BOOK

For the Years

1924---1929

GREENE COUNTY ROOM
GREENE COUNTY LIBRARY
76 EAST MARKET STREET
XENIA, OH 45385

FREMONT, OHIO, A. D. 1930

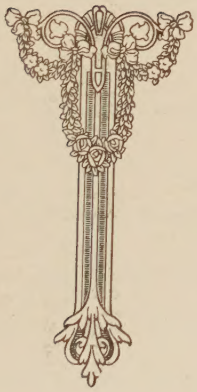
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Sandusky County
Historical Society

YEAR BOOK

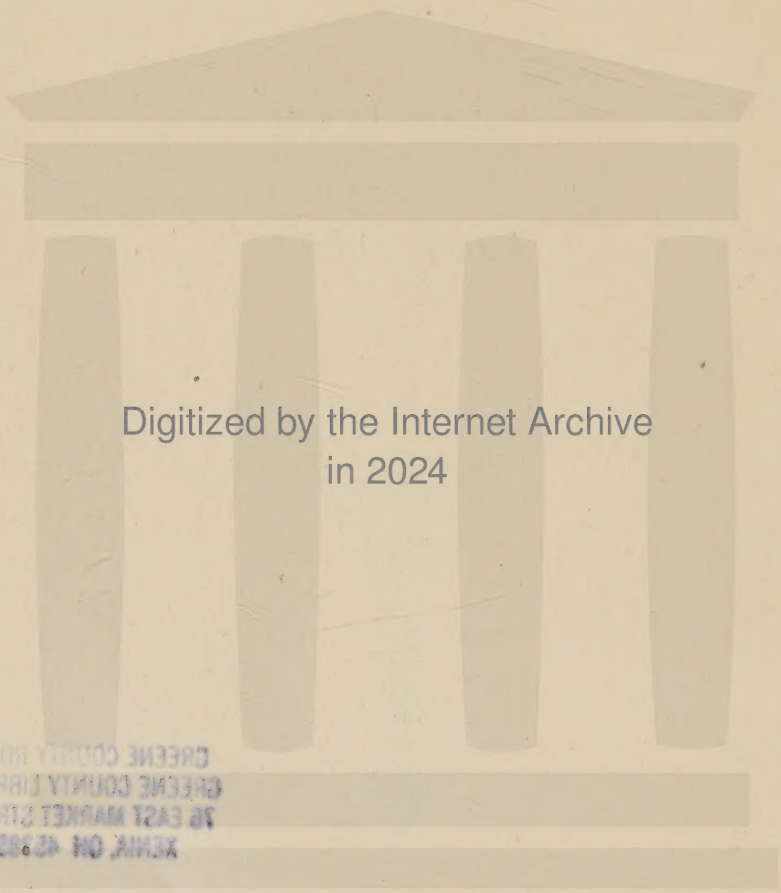
For the Years

1924---1929



GREENE COUNTY ROOM
GREENE COUNTY LIBRARY
76 EAST MARKET STREET
XENIA, OH 45385

FREMONT, OHIO, A. D. 1930



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024

https://archive.org/details/sanduskycountyhi0000vari

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction—Byron A. Fouche I
Roster of Officers and Trustees ..... II-III

PART ONE—HISTORICAL

Opportunity—Dr. Harlow Lindley 1
Historical Ohio—Judge A. W. Overmyer 3
Historical Sketch of Sandusky County 5
History of Riley Township—Mrs. W. H. Snyder, Jr. 13
Early Settlers of Washington Township—J. L. Loose 15
History of Lindsey—Miss Maybelle Snyder 19
Early History of Clyde—W. W. Kastrup 21
Where Are We Going—W. S. Diggs 24
Our Heroes—Prof. E. F. Warner 26
How Our Schools Train Citizens—Miss Amelia R. Lutz 29

PART TWO

Activities of Sandusky County Historical Society Since Publication of Last Year Book

Greetings 31
Meeting of Trustees, August 1, 1925 34
Fifty-third Annual Reunion, September 6, 1925 35
Meeting of Trustees, August 28, 1926 39
Fifty-fourth Annual Reunion, September 4, 1926 40
Meeting of Trustees, August 2, 1927 42
Fifty-fifth Annual Reunion, September 3, 1927 43
Meeting of Trustees, August 2, 1928 45
Fifty-sixth Annual Reunion, August 2, 1928 46
Meeting of Trustees, July 20, 1929 48
Fifty-seventh Annual Reunion, August 2, 1929 49
Financial Statement 51
Early History of Scott Township—John J. Lehmann 52

PART THREE—NECROLOGY

Lucy Elliot Keeler 54
James D. Hensel 57
Frank R. Havens 58
Katherine Sheldon 58
America's Oldest Twins 59

Year Book of The Sandusky County Historical Society For The Years 1924-1929 A. D. 1930

local newspapers, and there must necessarily be some errors. In this part we have tried to perform a service to the members of the Society in giving them the record of activities for the past five years.

In Part Three we have given respectful mention to a few out of many worthy ones in this county who have passed on during the past five years, whose activities in the community or the Historical Society make such consideration imperative.

In conclusion, we hope we have produced a little work that will not only prove of interest to the members of the Historical Society, but will be useful for reference to the teachers in our schools, to the young people who are growing up amid these historical associations, and to "the strangers within our gates."

The Secretary desires to acknowledge the assistance of Wm. H. Watts and especially to thank those who have contributed the manuscripts herein.

BYRON A. FOUCHE, Sec.
Fremont, Ohio
August 1, 1930

Published by the Society

In compiling this year-book we have tried to so arrange the available subject matter as to give it something of both literary interest and historical importance. In Part One, the historical section, we have taken some of the manuscripts of speeches delivered at various annual reunions of the Sandusky County Historical Society and Pioneer Association, together with some essays written especially for this book and have tried to give them a logical order, so that the reader will have before him an interesting and informative historical review. Many other addresses delivered at our annual reunions would be equally worth publishing, but the manuscripts are not available, and if they were available would extend far beyond the limits of our space. The historical sketch of Sandusky County is written solely to give the reader the salient facts of historic interest in connection with this county in the fewest possible words.

In Part Two we also hope the general reader will find some things of interest. We regret that we have no report on some of the speakers, but we had to depend on the files of the

The Following Named Persons Have Held The Various Offices For The Time Specified

PRESIDENT

HOMER EVERETT ..... 1872 to 1887
GEN. R. P. BUCKLAND ..... 1887 to 1891
DR. JAMES W. WILSON ..... 1891 to 1901
MAJ. I. H. BURGOON ..... 1901 to 1917
REV. W. A. BOWMAN ..... 1917 to 1923
A. E. CULBERT ..... 1923 to 1926
A. W. OVERMYER ..... 1926 to 1928
WM. H. SCHWARTZ ..... 1928 to 1930

VICE PRESIDENT

DR. L. Q. RAWSON ..... 1872 to 1877
MAJ. I. H. BURGOON ..... 1877 to 1901
JAMES L. PARKS ..... 1901 to 1923
GEO. H. WAGGONER ..... 1923 to 1930

SECRETARY

EX-PRES. R. B. HAYES ..... 1872 to 1877
I. M. KEELER ..... 1877 to 1878
MAJ. I. H. BURGOON ..... 1878 to 1895
JACOB BURGNER ..... 1895 to 1907
BASIL MEEK ..... 1907 to 1921
B. B. OVERMYER ..... 1921 to 1923
BYRON A. FOUCHE ..... 1923 to 1930

TREASURER

DR. JAMES W. WILSON ..... 1872 to 1882
A. J. WOLFE ..... 1882 to 1904
J. D. HENSEL ..... 1904 to 1928
FRANK M. BAUMAN 1930

CHAPLAIN

REV. HENRY LANG ..... 1872 to 1883
REV. E. BUSHNELL ..... 1883 to 1885
REV. GEO. CHRONENWET ..... 1886 to 1887
REV. CONRAD GAHN ..... 1887 to 1890
REV. O. H. TOTHEROH ..... 1890 to 1892
REV. W. A. BOWMAN ..... 1892 to 1917
REV. S. M. LOOSE ..... 1917 to 1922
REV. E. GERKEN ..... 1922 to 1925
REV. JOHN TODD ..... 1925 to 1930

CHORISTER

C. R. McCULLOCH ..... 1872 to 1889
JOHN G. FITCH and N. C. SHERWWOD ..... 1889 to 1895
M. L. SHACKELFORD ..... 1895 to 1918
NEWTON HARLEY ..... 1918 to 1924
MRS. T. J. MAXWELL ..... 1924 to 1925
MRS. F. B. FINCH ..... 1925 to 1930

ACCOMPANIST

MISS MAYBELLE SNYDER ..... 1923 to 1930

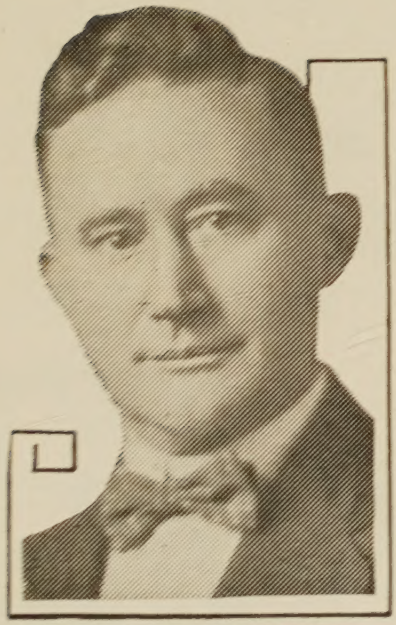
Officers Of The Association

WM. H. SCHWARTZ.....President
GEO. H. WAGGONER.....Vice President
BYRON A. FOUCHE.....Secretary
FRANK M. BAUMAN.....Treasurer
REV. JOHN TODD.....Chaplain
MRS. F. B. FINCH.....Chorister
MISS MAYBELLE SNYDER.....Accompanist

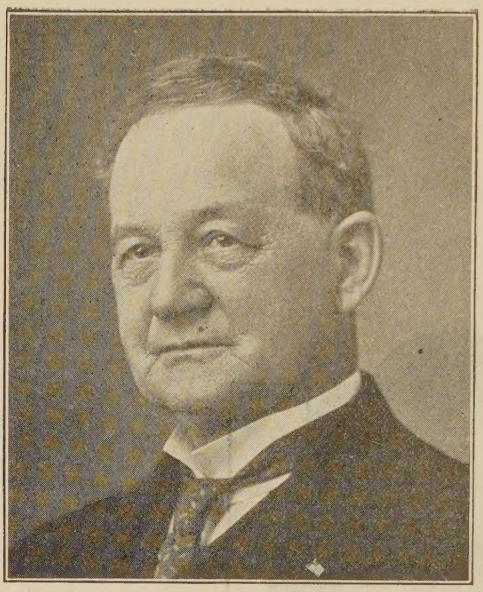
TRUSTEES OF THE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

E. F. WARNER.....Bellevue, Ohio
R. H. NAGEL.....R. D., Bellevue, Ohio
LEWIS F. WHITE.....R. D., Venice, Ohio
MRS. W. H. SNYDER.....R. D. 4, Fremont, Ohio
MRS. GEO. NUHFER.....Woodville, Ohio
FRANK M. BAUMAN.....Fremont, Ohio
J. D. HENSEL, [deceased].....Fremont, Ohio
A. J. LOVE.....Clyde, Ohio
JOHN J. LEHMAN.....Fremont, Ohio
J. L. LOOSE.....Lindsey, Ohio
B. A. FOUCHE.....Fremont, Ohio
MRS. F. B. FINCH.....Fremont, Ohio
L. C. TAYLOR.....Gibsonburg, Ohio
E. C. HUSS.....Fremont, Ohio
W. H. SCHWARTZ.....Fremont, Ohio
MISS LUCY M. KEELER, [deceased].....Fremont, Ohio
GEO. H. WAGGONER.....Fremont, Ohio
MISS MAYBELLE SNYDER.....Fremont, Ohio
JACOB DARR.....Fremont, Ohio
MRS. W. H. KELLER.....Fremont, Ohio

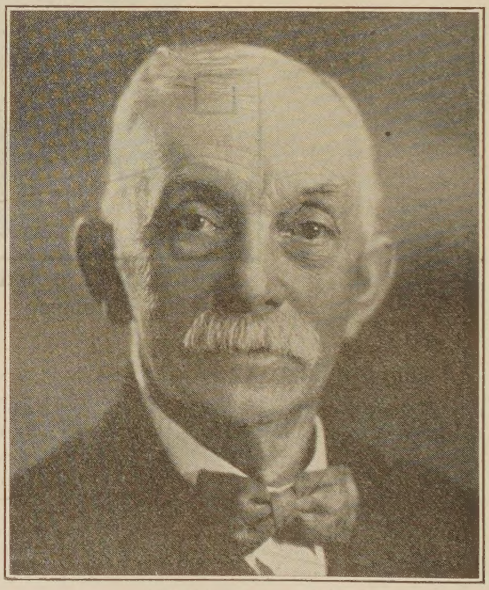
Annual meeting for election of Trustees held at Birchard Library, Fremont, Ohio, August 2nd, which meeting all members of the Association are urged to attend and participate in.



WILLIAM H. SCHWARTZ
President



BYRON A. FOUCHE
Secretary



FRANK M. BAUMAN
Treasurer

LUCY ELLIOT KEELER

1864-1930

PART ONE --HISTORICAL

OPPORTUNITY

Address by Dr. Harlow Lindley at the Fifty-Sixth Annual Reunion of Sandusky County Pioneers

No section of the country is as rich in historical activities as northwestern Ohio and Sandusky county. No one can follow the study of history in its true sense—the unfolding of the complex life of humanity—without observing the relation of cause and effect, and the relation of individuals to events. The progress of the world is marked by periods of crisis which we call critical periods. Usually a man, ready of resource and quick of action sees the emergency and is prepared to meet it. Pericles was the soul of the Golden Age of Greece; Augustus Caesar was the inspiration of the Augustan Age of Roman history. St. Francis of Assisi made his impress on his fellow men for all time. Luther, Huss and Wycliffe lived, labored and died, and the Spirit of Protestantism kindled the world. The world's history is made up of such—Napoleon, Washington, Lincoln, George Rogers Clark, Colonel George Croghan, all illustrate the point.

It has been said that the tie between person and event is opportunity. For the moment, two forces have met; one is plastic with respect to the other; one is ready to assume the form forced upon it by the other. The history of the world is full of uses and abuses of opportunity. In every instance, the man whose name is on the lips of posterity has been the man who, clearly seeing the opportunity, made the best of it. We talk about the strategy of the general in war, but it is nothing more than the wise foreseeing and prompt use of opportunity. The same is true of the wise and successful diplomat or the successful financier.

The world's civilization of today regards Christianity as the prime factor in its realization. Christianity was introduced into the world by the coming of Christ, just at a time when the pagan world was weary of its gods. The Greek philosophers had been endeavoring to understand the true meaning of life and death, and thus the minds of men had been prepared to a certain extent for the new ideas. Rome was the mistress of the world, and her roads radiated to all the remote parts of the earth. Her word was law, and her religion, the world's religion. To Christianize Rome meant to Christianize the world, and in three centuries the Roman legions were fighting under the Cross. But nations, like individuals are born, grow, flourish, decay and die. In the fifth century the Roman empire was crumbling and we approach another crisis and opportunity. To the north, in the forests of Germany was a simple, virile, impressionable people being stirred by they knew not what. As the confines of Rome weakened, the vigorous barbarian on the north crowded the barriers and set foot on Ital-

ian soil. They absorbed the best of the dying Roman institutions, and during the middle ages these were being assimilated and saved as the basis of our modern nations. In the thirteenth century the Saracens were putting forth their strongest efforts to ravage Christianity and bring the whole world under the Crescent. One horn of the Crescent was hovering over Constantinople and the other reached around the Mediteranean and up into Spain. Europe seemed to have been asleep; but a common impulse awakened her, and on the field of Tours the Moorish conquest was stayed. The learning of Constantinople was diffused over Europe and gradually fanned by the breath of the scholars of the time, and in two centuries we are in the midst of the Renaissance.

The attitude of the real student is a questioning one, and the youthful mind of Europe was asking and seeking the truth. The time was ripe for questioning the old ideas as to political and religious freedom. The crisis hour was met by a man who dared to question the old ideas. In the conflict of ideas in Europe men were seeking a new field for their solution when there occurred what Emerson called the "last opportunity of God for the human race," and after Chinese and Viking adventurers had visited the shore of America centuries before, America was discovered by Columbus and the final effective colonization was accomplished by Anglo-Saxon effort.

History affords many examples of opportunities to perform great deeds, but most men must be content with smaller, but not less important, duties. After all, we see life is made up of little things, and each deed well performed only prepares us the better for the next opportunity, be it small or great. Every one of us has an opportunity, but the vital thing to be considered is preparation for it. A great many events like the one we celebrate today might be opportunities, as this proved to be, if we were only prepared to meet them.

Lord Nelson's signal, "England expects every man to do his duty," did not win the battle of Trafalgar, but it was the previous training of the English gunners.

McClelland's drilling and the experience of many battles gave Grant a victorious army.

Alexander conquered the world, but the victories were won on the parade grounds in Macedonia.

Martin Luther was past middle life when he saw the opportunity for the Reformation, but his earlier habits and daily prayer had made him ready.

History would never have known Demosthenes had it not been for his pebbles.

Literature and forensic oratory would not know of Webster's "Reply to Hayne" had it not been for Webster's twenty years of preparation.

Major Croghan knew his men and his problem and won against much greater numbers.

If one would be an Edison he must spend years in study, experimenting and comparing results. If one would be a Lincoln he must strive for an education though he walk miles for books and then read them by the light of a fireplace.

Much has been given us; and where much is given, much will be required; and it is in the province of just such historical societies as this one to preserve the record of the past and pass it on to those who are to follow. Each generation records its own history, but we cannot understand the present nor contemplate the future without recognizing that the roots of the present lie deep in the past and that

"The heights great men reached and
kept,
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions
slept,
Were toiling upward in the night."

HISTORIC OHIO

Address by Judge A. W. Overmyer at Fifty-Sixth Annual Reunion of Sandusky County Pioneers

We are convened this day on sacred ground. Of all the vast Northwest Territory, from which five great states were formed, there is no section which abounds with so much vital human interest as Northwest Ohio, that section drained by the two historic streams, the Maumee and Sandusky rivers. The brave and sturdy French traders first invaded these haunts of the red man, bringing with them trinkets and brandy in exchange for furs. They were followed by the equally brave and sturdy English traders.

History, romance, tragedy and human-interest tales are forever linked with this former, paradise of the red man. They clung to these favorite haunts with a natural love of the beauties of the section and the advantages offered for livelihood, and with a tenacity born of savage despair. Two of the most noted conspiracies against the encroaching whites were formed in this section; the last one, the conspiracy of Pontiac, which had as its object the annihilation of British power, makes a thrilling and tragic chapter in American history. Pontiac was born and spent most of his life along the Maumee. Tecumseh, Blue Jacket, Blackhoof, Little Turtle and many other chieves left their indelible imprint in the history of this region. More Indians resided in this section than in any other part of Ohio, and it practically includes the territory reserved for them by the Treaty of Greenville in 1795.

To appreciate the importance of this section in the border warfare of the Americans against the Indians and British it is only necessary to note the activities here as indicated by the forts erected and the engagements fought.

In what is now Lucas county were Fort Industry, Fort Miami and Fort Deposit; also the scene of Dudley's Massacre, and near the Wood county line was Fort Meigs, the scene of two desperate seiges. In Ottawa county is the scene of General Harrison's camp. In Sandusky county the site of Fort Stephenson and the scene of its gallant defense. In Seneca county is the site of Fort Seneca, Harrison's camp and Fort Ball. In Crawford county is the scene of Col. Crawford's defeat and of Fort Feree. In Marion county is the site of one of Harrison's camps. In Champaign county is the site of General Hull's camp. In Logan county is the site of the Shawnee settlements which were the objects of many attacks. In Hardin county was the site of Fort McArthur. In Hancock county were Fort Necessity and Fort Findlay. In Putnam county was Fort Jennings. In Auglaize county were Fort Amanda and Fort St. Mary's. In Shelby county was Fort Loramie. In Miami county was Fort Piqua. In Darke county were Fort Jefferson and Fort Greenville. In Mercer county were Fort Adams and Fort Recovery, and on the state line the battlefield of St. Clair's defeat. In Defiance county were Fort Winchester and Fort Defiance.

The route of Clay's command of Harrison's army on the way to relieve Fort Meigs lay through the

counties of Miami, Shelby, Auglaize, Allen, Putnam, Paulding, Defiance, and Henry. The route of Hull's march on the way to Detroit lay through the counties of Clarke, Champaign, Logan, Hardin, Hancock, Wood and Lucas The route of Harrison's march or Trail, as it is known. lay through the counties of Franklin, Dellaware, Marion, Wyandot, Seneca, Sandusky and Wood.

Then too, we must mention Wayne's victorious conquest of the Indians at Fallen Timbers, near Perrysburg, at the end of a long and vigorous campaign, and the great naval victory of Commodore Perry on Lake Erie in waters that were once included within Sandusky county.

The citizens of every county in Northwest Ohio should have sufficient patriotic pride to recount to every generation the stories of the important events that occurred in this thrilling and beautiful record of sacrifice, patriotism and bravery.

Historical Sketch of Sandusky County

Ohio, and especially what is now Sandusky County, first takes it place in history in the "Relations" of Jesuit missionaries in Canada. From them we learn that northern Ohio, in the seventeenth century, was occupied by the Erie or Cat Indians, whose territory extended from the Genesee River to the Maumee. In 1665 the Erie nation was completely destroyed by the Iriquois, and the scattered refugees were absorbed by other tribes. In Ontario the Hurons had likewise been driven out by the Iriquois, and a branch of that tribe known as the Wyandots came into Ohio and settled in the region of the Sandusky River, joined later by more of the Hurons. The first white men in this region were the French explorers, Jesuit missionaries and traders, followed in later times by the English frontiersmen. Ohio thus became a prospective part of that projected French empire that was to have been bounded on the east by the Alleghany mountains and extended as far west as French arms could carry it; and at the same time it was claimed by some of the English colonies under charters from the King which entended their domain to the Pacific.

The first trouble between the French and English in the Ohio country occured as the result of some Pennsylvania colonists building a blockhouse and trading post called Fort Sandoski, at the head of the Sandusky Bay and on the west bank of the Sandusky River. They were given permission by an Indian chief baptised by the name of Nicholas. Nicholas then organized a conspiracy of various Indian tribes to drive the French out of Detroit, but, betrayed by a squaw, he surrendered to the French. Forbidden by the French to trade with the English he destroyed Fort Sandoski and moved with his followers to Indiana. The fort was rebuilt by the English in 1750, but abandoned through fear of the French who took possession of it the next year. During the French and Indian War (1754-63) it was rebuilt again by British soldiers in 1761 and finally destroyed at the outbreak of Pontiac's conspiracy.

May 16, 1763, the Wyandots surrounded the fort and under pretense of a friendly visit several of them who were well known to Ensign Pauli, the commandant, called on him. While smoking the pipe of peace, they suddenly seized the Ensign, their tribesmen killed the sentry and proceeded to murder and scalp the little band of soldiers and traders. The fort was then burned and Ensign Pauli taken to the vicinity of Detroit, where he was adopted by an old squaw, afterwards escaping to the garrison of Detroit.

The adventures of James Smith, a celebrated frontiersman who was captured by the Indians near Fort Duquesne in 1755 at the age of eighteen and adopted by them are highly interesting, but his story is too long for our space. He lived among the Indians for four years, then gave himself up to the French and was held in prison in Montreal for four months before being exchanged. With his Indian "brothers" he visited this region a number of times, hunting and fishing, and mentions the falls of the Sandusky River. He became an officer in the Continental Army and was mustered out at the close of the Revolutionary War with the rank of Colonel. He settled in Kentucky, where he died in 1812.

In 1763 King George III, by advice of his privy council, promulgated what is known as the Quebec Act, by which the Ohio country was reserved as Indian territory, and the English colonists were forbidden to

settle in it. In 1774 the "Quebec Act," which had theretofore been only an order of administration, was passed by the English Parliment, and became one of the causes of the Revolutionary War.

Following the French and Indian War came the Bratstreet expedition. Gen. Thomas Gage, commander-in-chief of the British army in America, sent Col. John Bradstreet to pacify the Indians of northern Ohio by force. In the summer of 1764 Bradstreet left Albany with about 2,000 men, moving by way of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. He followed the south shore of Lake Erie with a great flotilla, consisting principally of open boats. The expedition accomplished practically nothing, due to the gullibility of Bradstreet, who was completely deceived by the profuse professions of friendship made by the Indians. His farthest western camp was on the high land near the Sandusky River which is now enclosed by the Sandusky County fairgrounds. Israel Putnam, the hero of our school histories, who afterward left his plow in the ground to join the forces of Gen. Artemas Ward at the seige of Boston, commanded a Connecticut regiment on this expedition. Hence, the proper title of the fairgrounds is Israel Putnam Agricultural Park.

The beginnings of civil government in Ohio date from the passing of the Quebec Act in 1774. The Continental Congress, however, created three departments of Indian affairs. The middle department, which covered the Ohio territory, was put under the administration of Col. George Morgan, in April, 1776, with headquarters at Pittsburg. It seems to have been the policy of both the English and the American governments to deal fairly with the Indians, and the accounts of the times contain a great deal about treates with the Indians and Indian reservations which we cannot cover in our limited space. Evil characters on both sides however, made peace and fair dealing impossible. The surrender by Virginia of her claims in Ohio in 1784, and of Connecticut in 1786, made possible the organization of the Northwest Territory in 1787, and Ohio was eventually admitted to the Union in 1803.

The importance of the Sandusky River in the history of our county can hardly be over estimated. Both the Indians and the white explorers and pioneers, by means of light canoes which they could carry a over a short portage between the Sciota and Sandusky rivers and another between the Bay, near Fort Sandoski, and what is now Port Clinton, had a water way from the Ohio river to Detroit and beyond. Lake Erie and the Maumee River provided a cross-road from east to west. The rivers and lakes of the wilderness were the original roads of the wilderness, and much of the history which we are reviewing was determined by these geographical facts.

Settlement

To the Sandusky River one day in 1780 came Capt. Samuel Brady, a famous scout. He had been sent by Col. Broadhead, commandant at Fort Pitt, to spy on the Indians who were gathering on the river for a foray. With several others, all disguised as Indians, he traveled only at night. Arriving at what is now Fremont they waded through the water to the island in the river which is now crossed by the railroad bridge, and concealed themselves in a thicket for three days, while they watched the savages racing their horses on the opposite bank. They returned safely to Fort Pitt, after an absence of thirty-two days.

Only a few years after this desperate adventure the Whitakers settled upon the bank of the river about three miles farther down. James Whitaker was born in London, 1756, and at the age of twelve sailed to America. He became a member of the garrison at Fort Pitt, and in the

same year of Brady's adventure was captured by the Indians. He was compelled to run the gantlet, and not being sufficiently injured to satisfy his captors the first time, was about to be run again, when an elderly squaw wrapped her blanket about him and adopted him as her son. Some two years later a young girl, Elizabeth Foulks was captured in Pennsylvania. In the course of their wanderings these two met somewhere in northwestern Ohio and went to Detroit and were married, according to Christian ritual, returning to the Sandusky river to make their home. They were the first permanent settlers in this county, and were the parents of eight children. James Whitaker became a rich trader, according to the standards of those times, and seems to have been the originator of the chain store idea in Ohio, as he had other stores besides his post near Fremont. He was also a pioneer in education, as he hired a teacher from the east for his own children and sent his eldest daughter to Scotland to finish her education. Mr. Whitaker received his land holdings originally from his friends, the Indians; but his estate was confirmed by deed from the Federal Government to Mrs. Whitaker in 1822.

There were many other "squatters" in this region before the War of 1812 who were not so fortunate. Some of them improved their places to a considerable degree and then lost everything through some unscrupulous settler filing ahead of them at the land office.

The first Christian ministers in this territory were, of course, the Jesuit missionaries during the French days; but the pioneer preacher in Sandusky County at the beginning of civilization was the Rev. Joseph Badger, a Presbyterian, and an heroic character. For a great many years he wandered back and forth through northern Ohio, suffering all the dangers and hardships of a scout and preaching to both whites and reds as he had opportunity. One of his favorite preaching places was the home of the Whitakers. He labored indefatigably to persuade and teach the Indians to build houses, till their farms and live like white people, and with a great deal of success. His preaching to the Indians was especially directed against the witch-craft superstition, which at one time became serious, and the curse of drunkenness. So successful was his temperance work that he actually broke up the business of the white traders who were taking the Indians' goods in exchange for whiskey. He first arrived at the Whitaker's in 1801 Rev. Badger was strongly opposed to the War of 1812, so much so that he was called the Old Tory, considering it foolish and sinful for the United States to involve the lives of thousands of men in a war over a few sailors who suffered only a temporary loss of liberty; but when the war was actually declared he sided with his country, and Gen. Harrison made him chaplain and postmaster in his army. In addition to these duties he acted as Chief of military pioneers in opening a road for Gen. Harrison's army from the Huron River to the Sandusky. —November, 1812.

Fort Stephenson

We cannot review the War of 1812, but must mention the historic facts that are of importance to Fremont and Sandusky County. Early in the year 1813 Fort Stephenson was constructed of logs hauled by ox teams from Stony Prairie, west of Fremont. Log pickets, twenty feet long, sharpened at the top, were stood on end in a trench, close together, to make an enclosure 150 by 264 feet on the spot now called Fort Stephenson Park in Fremont, where the City Hall, the Birchard Library and the one cannon used in its defense now stands. It was surrounded by a dry moat about eight feet wide and about six feet deep. The fort took its name from its first Com-

mandant, who was succeeded by Major George Croghan.

July 28, 1813, the British General Proctor turned back from an unsuccessful attack on Fort Meigs and sailed with his army through Lake Erie into Sandusky Bay and up the river leaving the Indians to come over-land. Gen. Harrison, who was at Fort Seneca, nine miles south of Sandusky (Fremont), determined to abandon Fort Stephenson, if it could be done without the garrison falling into the hands of the savages, and gave Major Croghan orders accordingly. As Indians were seen hovering about, Major Croghan considered it would be safer to fight than to withdraw and send word to the general that he had determined to hold the fort. General Harrison, on July 30, sent Col. Ball with a squadron of 100 dragoons to Fort Stephenson with orders to Maj. Croghan to report at Fort Seneca. On the way the dragoons ran into a picket post of Indians who were lying in wait for the mail carrier, thinking to obtain information for Gen. Proctor. In the resulting skirmish most of the Indians were killed. This was the "Battle of Ballville," both the village and the township being named in honor of the Colonel. Major Croghan went back with the squadron, but upon explaining the situation to the General he was allowed to return to Fort Stephenson and maintain the defense.

Gen. Proctor attacked the fort on August 1, with 500 British regulars and about 2,000 Indians. Contrary to general understanding, Tecumseh was not present; he being left to guard the road to Fort Meigs. On August 2nd the fort was bombarded from the northwest with guns which had been dragged up the hill from the ships in the river. At evening the northwestern angle of the fort was assulted by about 250 men led by Lieut.-Col. Shortt and Lieut. Gordon under cover of the smoke from the bombardment. "Old Betsy," the one field piece of the garrison, had been run into a log bastion over the moat, about in front of where it now stands, in order to rake the ditch. When the attackers reached the ditch they were enfiladed by the fire from the gun in addition to the musket fire in front, and fell back in disorder, leaving about two dozen killed or wounded, including the two officers who led the assault. A similar attack on the southwest corner was repulsed by musket fire alone. Shortt and Gordon were buried with military honors by their enemies, and their graves are now covered by the high school. Lieut. Gordon was a son of a Bishop of the Anglican Church in Ireland.

"Old Betsy" is a French gun, captured by the British in a naval engagement during the French and Indian War. At the close of the War of 1812 the gun was sent to Pittsburg arsenal. Later it was sent by mistake to Sandusky City (Now Sandusky) but in 1852 it was brought back to the site of Fort Stephenson.

One of the soldiers of the garrison was James Kirk, who helped to build the fort, and who settled in Lower Sandusky (Fremont) in 1818 and opened a blacksmith shop, moving to Port Clinton in 1828.

Fremont

After the conquest of the Northwest Territory by Gen. Anthony Wayne, he concluded the "Treaty of Greenville" with the Indians. By this treaty the Indians ceded to the United States about 25,000 square miles of territory in exchange for about $20,000 worth of goods, and Ohio was thus opened to settlement. Most of northwestern Ohio remained Indian territory for some years after, with the exceptions of certain reservations stipulated in the treaty. One of the reservations was a tract two miles square "at the lower rapids of the Sandusky." The boundaries of this reservation are now the city limits of Fremont.

Sandusky County was organized in 1820, comprising only two townships: Sandusky and Croghan, with Croghansville (east of the river) as the county seat. In 1822 the county seat was removed to Lower Sandusky (west of the river,) and court was held in a log schoolhouse in what is now the high school block, southwest corner of Croghan St. and Park Ave. Ten years after the first court house was built. Charles R. Sherman, chairman of the commission to locate the county seat, afterward judge of the state Supreme Court, was the father of two famous sons: William Tecumseh, who became the "Uncle Billy" of the Union Army, and John, the statesman who was suggested for President by Jas. A. Garfield in the Republican convention at Chicago, 1880, with such eloquence that the convention gave the nomination to Garfield instead of Sherman. With Judge Burnet of Cincinnati, Judge Sherman held the first term of the Supreme Court in that old log building.

In 1829 the villages of Lower Sandusky and Croghansville were combined in the corporation of Lower Sandusky. In 1832-3 the first courthouse was built; a frame building, 24 by 36 feet, two stories high, for $2,450. The present courthouse was built in 1844, and the jail in 1892.

The only pioneer physician of whom anything definite is known was Dr. L. Q. Rawson, who settled in Lower Sandusky in 1827. He and a Dr. Hastings appear to have been the only physicians in the county. In 1834 the village suffered an epidemic of cholera, which terrorized the people so they were afraid to leave their homes or admit anyone. Drs. Rawson and Brown, Sardis Birchard and Judge Hulburt served as physicians nurse and undertaker. Dr. Rawson was also a pioneer railroad investor

The history of Sandusky County and Fremont cannot be told without mention of Sardis Birchard. He was an uncle of Rutherford Birchard Hayes, General and President. Coming here in 1824, he became a merchant in a large way, with a great deal of his trade among the Indians. It was to his credit that he refused to sell liquor to the Indians, and it is related that he trusted them and nearly always found them honorable. To him Fremont owes two parks: Diamond Park and Birchard Park, four city blocks nearly covered with timber, and the beginnings of Birchard Library. Spiegel Grove, which is now a state park through the generosity of Col. Webb Hayes and Mrs. Hayes was originally a part of the Birchard estate, and the Hayes mansion in the Grove was begun by Mr. Birchard and afterwards enlarged by R. B. Hayes.

In the Civil War Sandusky County gave three general officers to the Union Army: James B. McPherson, son of a pioneer blacksmith at Clyde, the highest ranking officer killed on the Northern side, Ralph P. Buckland and R. B. Hayes. It is not generally known that Gen. Hayes was shot off his horse at the Battle of South Mountain in 1862 by a bullet that ripped the sleeve of his coat the whole length and broke his arm. He was acting as Lieutenant Colonel of his regiment.

West of Spiegel Grove lies the Memorial Parkway in which each tree was planted in memory of a Sandusky County soldier who gave his life in the service of his country; and beyond are the handsome buildings of the Memorial Hospital group, both very largely made possible by gifts of Gen. Hayes' son, Col. Webb C. Hayes and his good wife.

The Townships

In briefly reviewing the histories of the townships we can pass Sandusky Township as its history is identical with that of Fremont. For the history of Clyde and Green Creek Township we refer the reader to the

essay by W. W. Kastrup. Lindsey and Washington Township are sufficiently covered by the able article on the Early Settlers, by J. L. Loose.

Ballville Township

Ballville Township was separated from Sandusky Township on the south and organized March 6, 1822. The first settler was Samuel Cochran, a Massachusetts man who built his own boat at Buffalo and sailed it with his family to the Huron River, where he left his family while he found a place to make his home on the Sandusky River. He was one of the squatters who afterwards lost his home with its improvements, whereupon he bought a tract below the Whitaker reservation. His first location was above the bend of the river in 1819. He was employed by Gen. Lewis Cass, then Indian agent, to help the mail carriers across Wolf Creek during high water.

Ballville village, at the Falls of the Sandusky is the location of a large hydro-electric power development; the plant having a fall of forty-four feet and generating four thousand horse power. This plant is now a part of the system of The Ohio Power Company. The river is here spanned by a handsome concrete bridge on the site of one of the old covered wooden bridges which was built in 1858.

Woodville Township

The first settlers of Woodville were Thomas Miller and Harriet, his wife, who located on the site of the present village in 1825. Two years later Mr. Miller died and Mrs. Miller used the home as a tavern for travellers on the Maumee and Western Reserve corduroy road, now the highly improved McPherson Highway.

The township takes its name from Congressman Amos E. Wood, at whose home the first township election was held, April 14, 1840.

The first school house was built in 1836. Among the early teachers was a "Bent" Brown, afterwards a professor in the Republic Normal and founder of the Normal University at Valparaiso, Ind. The village is older than the township, having been platted in 1836. The Lutheran Solomon's Parochial School was started in 1862. The Woodville Normal, since absorbed by another school was founded by Rev. Geo. Cronnenwett in 1881 to supply teachers for the parochial schools of the Lutheran synod.

The Portage River, Toussaint Creek and Sugar Creek flow from southwest to northeast through the township, separated by limestone ridges, which has made the township a great lime producing region. Much oil has also been tapped, and added greatly to the wealth of the inhabitants.

Madison Township

The first settler in Madison Township was Henry P. Allen, who built a log cabin in 1831. Soon after, David Smith, whose descendents still live in the neighborhood, settled there. The township was organized in 1833 and named for Pres. Madison, the first election being held on July 4, of that year in the blacksmith shop of Jacob Garn.

Gibsonburg was founded by Gen. W. H. Gibson and surveyed in 1871. The first house in the village was the Ezra Bell home on Yeasting St. The second home was that of Thomas Dunlap, a blacksmith, who had his shop on the present site of the town hall. Gibsonburg was incorporated in April 1880. Being in the limestone country, the manufacture of lime is the most important business activity.

Scott Township

Scott Township, south of Madison Township, was organized in April, 1830, and named for Merritt Scott, an early settler who fought in the War of 1812. Two prairies in this township attracted the pioneers because of their convenience for pasture and plow land. Parts of these prairies were sometimes covered with water in the spring and thereby became the

resorts of wild ducks, geese and swans. A sand ridge bordering the south prairie was formerly the course of an Indian trail. Greensburg and Rollersville are the business centers. David Smith is noted as the first postmaster, and the pioneer physician was Dr. J. C. Thompson, who began practicing there in 1844.

Gen Harrison's line of march from Fort Seneca to Fort Meigs passed through this township, and one mile south of Greensburg Pike, seven miles from Fremont, is Harrison's Rock, which he is said to have used for a dining table.

Two of the earliest settlers were Peter and Henry Stultz, who came in 1828. The villages of Burgoon, Helena and Millersville are the business centers.

Rice Township

Ottawa County, on the lake, and Sandusky County were separated in 1840, and a part of Bay Township and within the Sandusky County line was erected into Rice Township; named in honor of Ezekiel Rice, an early settler on the Portage River.

A part of the early settlers were French squatters who left the Maumee country in 1813 at the direction of the United States government, to escape Tecumseh's Indians, coming over the ice of Lake Erie and Sandusky Bay in sleighs. In 1835 a large number of Germans located in the township.

There is much marsh land in the northeastern part, occupied by various hunting and fishing clubs.

Riley Township

Riley Township, adjoining Sandusky Bay and east of Rice, was not settled until 1820, when Andrew Stull came from Huron County with his goods in a wagon. The nearest neighbor was six miles away. The nearest physician was at Lower Sandusky, ten miles away. One of his sons afterwards stated, "Our food was chierly wild meat, venison, turkey and fish, the latter in plenty. Salt pork was 50 cents a pound, bread mostly corn."

Pickerel, Racoon, South and Green creeks flow northward into Sandusky Bay, and the northern part of the township is largely marsh, occupied by the Winous Point Shooting Club and the Ottawa Hunting and Shooting Club.

The middle district is prairie, which was settled first, and the southern part timber, which was taken up by industrious Germans who came in 1835. Riley did not have a postoffice until 1890, when one was established at Erlin village—But from here on we will let Mrs. Snyder tell the story after we have briefly sketched the history of the other townships.

Townsend Township

The extreme northeastern township is named for one of its early settlers, Abraham Townsend. Its geography is similar to that of Riley township. The northward running streams are Fuller and Strong creeks, tributaries of Pickerel Creek, and Little Pickerel. It is also noted for flowing springs, fed by underground rivers from the south. The water from these springs is utilized by the Rockwell Spring Trout Fishing Club, which maintains a fish hatchery.

The first recorded settler was Moses Wilson, who built a log cabin on the North Ridge in 1818. Townsend postoffice was established in 1824, and afterwards discontinued. The postoffice is now at Vickery, the principal village.

York Township

York Township was first settled by squatters, who came in 1818 or 1819. The permanent settlers came in about 1821 or 1822. Schools and churches were early organized. The township is noted for its cherry orchards, the Highland Cherry Farm containing 6,000 trees. A part of the beautiful little city of Bellevue, an important railroad and industrial center, lies within York Township.

The first settler in Bellevue was a Mark Hopkins, who came in 1815, but the original hamlet was called Amsden's Corners, for T. G. Amsden, a pioneer merchant. The postoffice was called York Cross Roads. The name Bellevue was adopted in 1839 when the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad, now the Pennsylvania Railroad was built through the town. The town was incorporated Jaunary 25, 1851, with Abraham Leiter as the first mayor.

Bellevue and its Points of Historic and Scenic Interest

(A) The Penn. R. R. through Bellevue and to Flat Rock runs over practically the road bed of the "Old Mad River R. R." the first railroad wholly within the limits of Ohio.

(B) Bellevue and vicinity furnishes the best examples of sink hole formation in Ohio. Professors of geology in colleges and universities frequently bring their classes here for study.

(C) Good's Cave the third largest cave in Ohio with rooms on three levels is 4½ miles southwest of city.

(D) Kinney's Cave 2½ miles south of city (now closed) was formerly much visited.

(E) The old mill pond in s. w. part of city marks approximately the site of an entensive distilling industry about 1860.

(F) The second oldest Sunday School in Ohio with a continuous existence is that of Lyme Congregational Church 3 m. east of Bellevue.

(G) At Flat Rock 3 miles s. w. of Bellevue is located one of the orphanages of the Evangelical Church.

(H) At Franks 6 miles south of Bellevue is the widely known Catholic shrine, presided over by the sisterhood of "The Precious Blood."

(I) The birth place of Jay Cooke famous financier of the Civil War is at Cooke's Corners 6 miles east of Bellevue.

(J) An abandoned cut, part of the road-bed of the Old Mad River R. R. is to be seen in Thompson township, six miles s. w. of Bellevue.

(K) The largest sour cherry orchard in Ohio, 2 miles west of city.

History of Riley Township

Mrs. W. H. Snyder, Jr.

A band of Wyandot Indians under Chief Nicholas located upon Cherry, Peach and Graveyard Islands and in 1745, with the French, built Fort Junundat. Nicholas then entered into a conspiracy with Pontiac, but met his punishment a few years later when an English force destroyed his village and the French fort and drove Nicholas and his band to Illinois.

There are various evidences in Riley Township of the Mound Builders, some extending from Erie County along Sandusky Bay on the high lands and thence along Sandusky River to Fremont, where there were numerous forts or mounds with walls four and five feet high filled with stone and covered with dirt, which have long since been leveled off by the land owners.

Andrew Stull was the first resident settler, locating on the County or Venice road on the bank of Pickerel Creek. The first road constructed in Riley Township was from Fremont to Green Creek, known as the County road, which now runs past the county home. This was in 1821, and was followed by a petition in 1823 for an extension from Green Creek to what is now the Erie County line (known as Venice Road.) In later years the state road was laid out.

The early settlers suffered greatly with malaria, as the land was low and level, with insufficient drainage. Much stagnant water remained on the surface, and old-fashioned ague prevailed until drainage and a better water supply were procured. Many will recall the almost impassible mud roads at certain seasons of the year, which have since been improved and proper drainage provided, and in late years have been paved or macadamized until the township now has as good roads as any in the county.

About 1835 the Germans began to locate in the southern part of Riley Township, where live many of their decendants at this time.

The Ohio Railroad, which was never finished, passed through the township, the route being from Cleveland to the Maumee River. It was built upon spiles with strap rails. Its construction began at Cleveland and also at the Maumee River, and they expected to meet at Huron. The road financially collapsed in 1840 and was never completed. Evidence of this old railroad still exists in the township, or did a few years ago where the spiles were still standing in a state of decay through the woods along this route.

At the mouth of Pickerel Creek, Raccoon Creek, at South Creek and on the Sandusky River at what is now known as Wightman's Grove, were dockage points for cord wood, hickory butts, and staves, bolts and piling. Thousands of cords of wood and other timber would be hauled to these shipping points during the winter season to be freighted away to Sandusky by scows and barges during the season of navigation. For a great many years steam barges and scows plied back and forth between these points to Sandusky up to about 1890, until the timber was exhausted. French Canadians from Quebec came into this township and cut great quantities of ship timber, selecting only the very choicest of trees, which were hauled to the river and loaded upon barges.

The marshes from the river to the bay were embraced within this township, and with plenty of game at hand many of the early settlers devoted much of their time to hunting and trapping for the market. The Winous Point Club was organized in

1851 and the Ottawa Shooting Club in 1871, and they gradually acquired the ownership of practically all of the marshes suitable for game purposes. The State Supreme Court in 1871 decided the question of the right to hunt upon these lands being exclusive to the owners, which deprived outsiders of the privilege of hunting and trapping thereon.

The last deer killed in Riley Township was in the year 1870, along the bank of Pickerel Creek, by a party of hunters composed of William Pierson, Henry Coonrod and others.

For many years the land adjoining the streams in the northern part of this township suffered from overflows, due to the improvement of the lands to the south and additional drainage which carried the water to these streams so rapidly that they overflowed. Since then some of these streams have been deepened and straightened and obstructions removed.

The township contains many artesian wells, opened by drilling to a depth of from 70 to 125 feet. Some of these wells flow a solid stream of five inches of water. In the eastern part the water is of a sulphur nature, but in the central and western parts it is more of an iron water.

The first grist mill in this township was built on Raccoon and Pickerel Creeks with water power, but as the country began to be cleared up these mills failed by the drying up of streams. James Beebe built a saw mill on Pickerel Creek with water power and later sold it to Levi Cowl. This mill fared the same fate. Jason Gibbs built the first steam saw mill in the township. In 1845 Eli Foust built a grist mill, and Mr. Schoch built another in 1850, and in 1880 Joseph Gschwind built a saw mill in the extreme northern part of the township in the midst of the timber district, which continued to operate for many years.

The Lake Erie & Western Railroad was built from Fremont to Sandusky in 1883, and passed through this township and had a station at Erlin. The Lake Shore Electric, which runs parallel to the Lake Erie & Western, was built along the same route.

The story of Jacob and Sarah Lance is typical of pioneer days and pioneer hardships. They came from West Virginia to Sandusky County in 1830 and settled in the unbroken forest in Riley Township, after many days of perilous and tedious traveling on horseback over the mountains and through the forest. They settled six miles northeast of Lower Sandusky, now Fremont, erecting a little log cabin with floor made of planks split from large logs and smoothed by use, with one door and two small windows and a fire place; which were all the conveniences and comforts it afforded. All the furniture was home made. Living in a dense forest with wolves howling around, one can imagine the monotony of a pioneer's life. It is stated that when they had anything to take to market they would start off early in the morning with an ox team and an ax to find the best road by blazing the trees so they could find their way back; and the only settlers between their home and Fremont were one house, occupied by a colored family on what is now the infirmary farm and a family by the name of Camp in Rice Township, and Mr. Lathrop lived east of them. They made all their own thread by raising flax and prepared it for the wheel, and all their heavy clothing was made by spinning the wool and weaving it into cloth. The price of butter was from four to six cents per pound, eggs from four to six cents per dozen, pork $1.76 per cwt.

The Early Settlers of Washington Township and Vicinity

By J. L. Loose

This little history of the first settlers and real pioneers of this community will begin with the Overmyers, Waggoners, Reeds, Foughts, Hesses, Burgetts, Auxters, Boyers, and the Schwartzs, Uppermans and Burketts of Hessville, who have quite

J. L. LOOSE
Trustee of Pioneer and Historical Association

a number of decendantson the farms and estates left by their forefathers who moved in here when this was all a dense forest and bought their land from the government at $1.25 an acre. The first they had to do was to chop down trees enough to make a little opening to build a house of round logs about 18x25 feet, one and one-half stories high, with clapboard roof, a large fireplace and chimney at one end and a ladder in one corner to get to the second floor. Some had only puncheons for floors; that is, split logs hewed on one side to make it somewhere near level; doors with wooden hinges. The fireplace was used to cook and bake in until a Dutch bake oven was built outside to do the baking in. Usually, a round pole or stick was put across the chimney about four feet from the bottom on which short chains or rod

hooks were attached to hang the kettles on for cooking. Baking was done in the hot coals.

Some of the families that moved here in covered wagons would use the wagons for a sleeping place nearly all summer, or until they had a better place provided. As soon as enough ground was cleared for a garden or truck patch the ground was stirred up with a grub hoe or single shovel plow around the stumps and roots, and garden seeds and perhaps some corn was planted, which would grow luxuriously, as the soil was very rich; and in time more corn would be planted and some wheat and buckwheat would be raised to get something to live on. The first threshing was done with flails.

Before barns were built with floors, a rail pen was built about 18 inches high on a clean swept place about 14 feet square; then a floor of rails laid across on which the bunches of buckwheat or grain of any kind was laid and beaten with the flails. When the space below the floor got filled with grain and chaff it was cleaned with a fanning mill, sometimes home-made by a carpenter; then another batch put on and threshed as before, and so on until all was done.

Sometimes in a wet season part of the corn would drown out; then buckwheat would be sown in the wet spots, as buckwheat would mature when sowed as late as the first of July. Some years there would be more buckwheat than corn, so that buckwheat flapjacks and corn-prepared in dfferent styles were necessities for cheap living, instead of luxuries as now. Later, when they built barns with floors, some threshing was done with horses.

Timber was of no value in those times. Trees were cut down and cut into about twenty foot lengths and piled up in heaps and burned. Ashes were carefully saved and sold to the ash man when he came around. A little cash those times came handy, as money was scarce. One dollar then was considered as much as twenty dollars is now.

These first settlers had their jolly times too as well as now. It was the custom then when a farmer had eight or ten acres ready for logging to invite all of his neighbors some afternoon to what they called a logging bee. Four or five yoke of oxen would arrive and six or seven men to a team, and then there would be rivalry to see which team would make the most and best piles of log heaps. Another custom went with this. A jug of whiskey was passed around: each would take a little swig, which would give them pep to work all the harder. The women also were invited to these gatherings to get up a good supper, and have a jolly good time as well. In this way the forest was changed into good productive and tillable land.

Those times were not all hardship. One article of food which was much craved and desired by everyone was sugar manufactured from the sap of the maple tree, a grove of which was on every farm. This article was more plentiful than anything in those days. The sap was bolied down in iron kettles to make syrup, and more boiling to make sugar. Then would come what they called sugaring off. Generaly the young people would gather around about this time and have a good sweet feast and a jolly good time. This generally took place in the evening.

The sketcher of this history nas in mind two of the most prominent and large families, viz. the Overmyers and Waggoners. They were large in stature and strong; their weights mostly over two hundred pounds; well calculated to subdue the forest and clear and till the land.

Philip Overmyer, a native of Pennsylvania and a son of John George Overmyer, a Revolutionary soldier moved into Sandusky county about 1834 with six sons and some daugh-

ters; the sons being married. All entered land from the government at $1.25 an acre, all near Lindsey. One, Samuel, one and one-half miles southeast of Lindsey, forty acres; William, one hundred and sixty acres, west of the Lindsey road. The part of Lindsey west of the road is built on this farm. Jacob, one-half mile north of Lindsey; Philip, east of Jacob; Daniel, adjoining Jacob on the northwest, and George, north of Daniel.

All of these farms are now owned or managed by the decendents of the forefathers except one, Philip's, which is owned by the C. Kramb heirs. George's farm is managed by a grandson, Elbert Overmyer, blind for several years. He sits near his radio most of the time, and receives a great deal of enjoyment therefrom. He has two daughters, the eldest graduating in June from the Bowling Green Normal School, and the younger one in her third year in Fremont high school. Although blind, he saves enough to educate his daughters. I feel greatful to Elbert Overmyer for the use of an old record of the minutes of the first school meetings held for the election of school directors, et al, in 1836. Two years after the first tree was chopped down a school was started in a room of some kind and a householder named Philip Overmyer was hired to teach three months for $37.

In 1841 it was necessary to have a better schoolhouse, and a meeting was called and a plan made to build a log house 24 feet square, with a shingle roof, a floor and ceiling, four windows (18 lights in a window), desks on two sides against the wall, and seats made of slabs gotten at a saw mill. The householders were taxed $90 for the building, but each person had the privilege of working out his tax. All but enough money was to be paid in to buy nails, glass, stove and lime. This schoolnouse was built about two miles northeast of Lindsey. How does this compare to a new centralized schoolhouse built at Lindsey in 1929 for the sum of $68,000? Some improvement surely the decendants of their forefathers enjoy in the year 1929!

Another prominent family was the Waggoners, the head of which, John George, a Revolutionary soldier and a body guard of George Washington, moved to Sandusky County in 1830 from Perry county, Ohio, with seven sons and some daughters. Three of the sons took up land in Seneca county; but four entered land in this county, viz. George, three miles southeast of Lindsey, on McPherson Highway; John, also about three miles southeast of Sandusky township, just across the line; Samuel, one mile east of Lindsey, and Solomon, east of the Lindsey road. The part of Lindsey east of Main St. is built on land entered by Solomon. Solomon later sold out and moved farther west. The farms of the three others are managed by some of their decendants. George added more acres to his original farm until he owned about six hundred acres, the homestead of which is now operated by a grandson, Charles.

Samuel also added to the original until now about three hundred acres are operated by a grandson. John, across the line in Sandusky township, entered and accumulated more acres in Washington township. His estate was about five hundred acres, one hundred and sixty acres of which border Lindsey on the southeast, part of it in the Lindsey corporation. This tract of one hundred and sixty acres John deeded to a son Daniel, who commenced in the woods also. This tract is now operated by a grandson, Amos, and a great-grandson, Clyde, with more acres added. It is quite a contrast the way farming is done now, with a tractor pulling two and three bottom plows, plowing from six to ten acres a day, the plowman riding instead of walking between the handles of a plow pulled by a yoke

of oxen, plowing about one acre a day among the roots and stumps Also, the harvesting done with a self-binder and the grass cut with a mowing machine instead of with a scythe and the grain with a cradle. The writer of this history knows wnat it is to plow with oxen among stumps and roots and to be hit on the shins with a root that would fly back and make him howl and limp for a while.

Besides the families previously mentioned, the writer knows of another Overmyer from Perry county, Ohio, who entered land for two of his sons: George L. and Michael, in 1826, and a neighbor of John, Daniel Hensel, who entered the southwest quarter of section 17; George L., the southeast quarter of section 18, and Michael, the southwest quarter of section 18, all in Sandusky township. George L. was the father of the late B. B. Overmyer, and Daniel Hensel the grandfather of our late worthy treasurer, James D. Hensel. A few years later, in 1831, John Michael, the father of George L., also moved to Sandusky county and bought the southeast quarter of section 19, a Pike tract of one hundred and fifty-three acres. The farm is now owned by the Samuel Kuns heirs.. Besides these first settlers already mentioned there were numerous others: Reed, Fought, Hess, Burkett, Auxter, Boyer, Bowersox, Schwartz, Opperman and Snyder; the three last near Hessville. All of these first pioneers already mentioned, and others not mentioned, helped to change the heavy forest to good productive land now enjoyed by their numerous decendants.

John Burkett, a native of Switzerland, born in 1753, came across the ocean with his parents and a brother when a young man, and on the way across the father died and was buried at sea. The remainder of the family landed at Philadelphia and settled in Berks county, Pa. When the Revolutionary War broke out John Burkett enlisted and was a body guard of George Washington. After the war he remained in Pennsylvania until 1810, when there was a general migration to Perry county, Ohio, to which place he moved with his family and purchased a large farm. He remained there until 1835, when he sold out and moved to Sandusky county. There he entered the northeast quarter of section 19, Washington township, five miles east of Gibsonburg. Here he lived until his death in 1847, at the age of 93. His remains lie in Hessville cemetery. He left numerous descendants in and around Hessville, Gibsonburg, and in and north of Lindsey to enjoy the improvements this old pioneer ancestor made.

The writer of this history has also had some experience in pioneer life, as he was reared on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres purchased by his father in 1845, heavy timbered, all but about fifty acres which was cleared, but very stumpy and difficult to till compared with farming as done now. Acres of trees were cut down, chopped in log lengths, brush burned, logs piled up and burned and the land made ready for the plow. Plowing and logging was usually done with oxen. Stumps were prominent for years, which made it difficult to till. The writer of these notes was born in 1836.

History of Lindsey

By Miss Mabelle Snyder

The village of Lindsey is located in sections 2 and 3 in Washington Township, on the line of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, now the New York Central Lines. It has a population of four hundred and fifty-nine.

The incipient steps toward founding a town were taken by Charles Loose about 1855. Mr. Loose erected a grain elevator and began the grain trade. The following year he erected a store and dwelling house.

The village was at first called Washington Station. The first postoffice was named Loose. This caused confusion in the delivery of mail and freight, and about 1860 a meeting was called and it was decided to name the village Lindsey in honor of the general superintendent of the railroad, whose name was Lindsey and the name of the postoffice was changed to the Lindsey postoffice to accord with the new name of the village.

The first lots were surveyed March 23, 1862, by C. A. Monk and Isaiah Overmyer. The east side of the town was taken from the Stine and Monk estates; the lower east and northwest from the Stine estate, and the west part from the Overmyer and Loose estates. The village was incorporated in 1870. Joel Burkett was the first mayor, and F. F. Stine one of the first councilmen.

It will be interesting to know that Lindsey was at one time a manufacturing village. A paper mill or-

MISS MABELLE SNYDER

iginally stood where the Bloker Lumber Mill now stands. This was in operation from about 1875 to 1882. Another industry was the manufacture of staves and headings when there was a lot of elm timber in this locality, about 1880 to 1890.

There was also a flour mill built about 1884, which burned down in 1890. About 1890 a brick yard was first operated. This was later purchased by a community company and converted into a tile yard.

A large hotel building was erected in 1872 by A. Burger, and later owned by H. M. Nicols of New York. This hotel burned down in April. 1904.

Main Street at first could boast only of wooden buildings. Those have been replaced by brick.

The first drug store was operated by C. A. Nealson in 1873. This building burned and was replaced by another building which burned in 1895. The present brick building was then erected.

The first hardware store was operater by Jacob Kramb.

The first Evangelical church was built one and one-half miles north of Lindsey in 1852. The Evangelical church in Lindsey was built in 1871. A new brick church was erected which burned down about a week before it was to be dedicated. This was in 1916. The building was rebuilt at once. The Reformed church was built in 1881.

For many years Lindsey was in total darkness at night. The first street lamps were coal oil lamps; later natural gas was used, and nowhere in the country were lights burned so lavishly, as it was then thought the supply was inexhaustible. Natural gas was used for about thirty years. Electricity was first used to light the streets in 1911 or 1912.

Lindsey had its first paved street in 1907.

The telephone was first used in 1903.

The first school was conducted on the upper floor of a factory on Main Street. The first schoolhouse was built about 1868 at the corner of Elm and Walnut streets. A private school was then taught by Johnie House. The brick school at the corner of Walnut and Lynn was built in 1875. This building was abandoned when the beautiful Washington Township Consolidated School building was built in 1929. This school has five teachers; J. M. Collins being the principal.

Two thriving establishments in the village are The Bloker Lumber Co. and The Farmers' Mercantile Elevator Co.

Lindsey is a beautiful little village of which all of its residents are very proud.

The Early History of Clyde

By W. W. Kastrup,
Editor of The Clyde Enterprise

Although the early history of Clyde was not one whose origin lay in the establishment of a military post or an Indian settlement it has a peculiar interest for people who are descendants of the early pioneers of this locality. There had been a fort established at what is now Fremont and Col. George Croghan had successfully defended it against the British and the Indians some years before the first settlement was made on the land now a part of Clyde corporation.

The probable and most logical reason for a settlement being established there was the fact that it lay at the junction of two important trails; the one leading south from Lower Sandusky and the other a trail later to become the Western Reserve and Maumee Turnpike, which led to Fort Stephenson.

Over these trails in the early days many Indians as well as the brave settlers migrating to the Western Reserve plodded with wagons, or rode horseback or trudged their way through the forests. It was a day's journey from Lower Sandusky according to the slow method of travel and many was the camp that was pitched along the banks of Raccoon Creek or other streams which found their course through this section.

As near as earliest record and legend shows, Jesse Benton was the first squatter on a tract of land now part of the village. He came in 1820 and thereby acquired the distinction of being the first settler. Benton's claim, it is said, contained eighty acres in the southeast quarter of section 14. It began near the site of the old mill on Main street and continued west as far as the present site of the Clydesdale factory. From there the tract ran south as far as the site of the waterworks plant, thence east to Main street and north to the place of beginning. This included what is now the best residential district and part of the business district of the present village.

Benton probably chose this location on account of a spring of excellent water which seeped from the side of a hill, which sloped to a small creek later known as Sucker Run. He built a log cabin near the spring and there in a dense forest he began the life of a pioneer.

Apparently Benton was loathe to pursue the life of a woodsman and tiller of the soil, for he did not remain long at the scene of his home and in a short time, for the consideration of a barrel of whiskey, he ceded his claim to Samuel Pogue, who took possession at once and lived in the Benton cabin until his death in 1828.

Pogue was among the most sturdy pioneers. In 1822 he was elected a township officer. Lyman F. Miller, a step-son of Pogue, was with him when he arrived in this vicinity as also were Amos Fenn, Silas Dewey and Giles Thompson. The Pogue farm later fell into the hands of Miller and George R. Brown, who had married Mr. Pogue's daughter.

The site of the first squatters was nearly a mile from the junction of the two trails mentioned above. Emigration had begun, slowly but steadily. More settlers were arriving by boat at Lower Sandusky and debarking to take the trail toward the south and west. Nothing was more certain than that the tide of emigration would increase rapidly, and among the first to see this was William McPherson, a blacksmith by trade and father of the immortal General James B. McPherson.

A short time after the grading of the Western Reserve and Maumee Turnpike, whose construction was authorized in 1823, McPherson opened a shop and did a thriving business for a few years. He soon learned

that more money was to be made in handling goods needed by settlers and opened a dry goods store.

In 1828, William Hamer disposed of a farm which he had taken up in the west part of Green Creek township and purchased from McPherson a triangular piece of land lying between what is now Main street, Maple street and the Highway. On this land facing the Highway he erected a log cabin of commodius quarters and opened a tavern, the first in this section.

Hamer little realized that the establishment of his tavern was the nucleus to the founding of a settlement and it is said he cared less. His place became widely known and the corners where it was located were called Hamer's Corners. It was a two-story log structure, 36x26 and had the usual bar room and sleeping quarters. Mr. Hamer managed the place successfully until 1838 when he retired.

Meanwhile Lyman Miller had acquired considerably more land in the vicinity and had the progressive idea of building a town. Miller's son, Henry W. Miller, now a resident of Clyde and a veteran of Co. A. 72nd. O. V. I., was then a boy but he oftimes retells the story of the laying out of the town in its present location.

Mr. Miller's story relates that his father and Wm. Hamer met one day while riding horseback, "Hamer," Miller is reported to have inquired, "Why don't you lay out your farm into lots and build a town here?" To which Hamer replied that he would not consent. Miller then said, "If you won't lay out a town, I will."

Hamer's disgust was evident when he answered, "If you are damn fool enough to cut up your farm into lots, you can go ahead. I won't." and he rode away.

Miller acted upon his idea. With his son Henry holding one end of the chain and with the help of neighbors he laid out his farm into streets and lots, named the streets and encouraged settlement.

Meanwhile the railroads had been laid through the site of Miller's land and with them was brought business and more people. A station was erected and soon business places began to grow up. Homes were erected on the land purchased from Miller. This gave inspiration to others to lay out additions to the town.

Hamer soon realized that the growth of the town was drawing away from his land and together with P. B. Beery, who had migrated from New York and carried on a store at the corners in 1851, made haste to lay out their triangular section into lots.

The Corners had been a stopping place for a line of post coaches, which had been established about 1832. Two coaches, each drawn by four horses, ran each way daily and continued as the only means of transportation until the advent of the railroads.

The name of the town seems to have been doubtful prior to 1852. The plats recorded by Beery and Hamer are designated "Additions to Centerville" while another platted by George R. Brown is headed by the words "Addition to Clyde." Another platted by J. L. Ames in the east side also was designated and "Addition to Centerville."

The controversy over the name was at least partially settled at a meeting held at Witcher's tavern in 1852. It was attended by most of the prominent citizens of the village at the time including Hamer, Miller, E. B. Witcher, Robert Clapp, O. P. Woodward, Dr. Treadway, A. G. Perry, and others. Several names were suggested, among them being Plainville, Livonia and Ayer. Woodward had been a resident of Clyde, New York, and it was through his suggestion that a name was decided upon and finally was adopted by the people generally. It is said a party of teamsters stopping at the tavern were permitted to take part in naming the town.

There arose at this time a keen competition between rival factions in settling the town. Two hotels sprang up at the intersection of the I. B. & W. (now the Big Four) and the L. S. & M. S. (now the New York Central) railroads.

Hamer's failure to take advantage

of the site he owned and his unforseeing future of the present importance of the Pike for travel were factors which weighed heavily in establishment of the business section of Clyde where it now stands. It was not long before the taverns on the Pike ceased to flourish. Railroads brought in passengers and freight and it was easier and more convenient for merchants to do business where business was ready to receive it. Those who had stores at the Corners moved them to the then rapidly growing business section on Main street. The location was handier for the drummer who made the hotels his headquarters and gradually practically all business along the Maumee Pike was turned aside a few blocks—located "down town." Since the days of automobile traffic of passengers and freight there is now a decided tendency toward moving to the old location and site of the early day activities in Clyde.

The population increased and with it came industries of various natures. There had been nothing more than a township government up to the time the Civil War broke out, when nearly half of the male population answered the call of President Lincoln for soldiers to fight for the Union cause. It is probable that these very soldiers who went to the South and returned brought with them the constructive idea of a town government.

The early council records, which are now in possession of the writer for historical data, show that on March 8, 1866, between the hours of noon and "early candle light" the first meeting was held for the purpose of forming a government and choosing officials for the "greatest good to the greatest number."

The meeting was successful. A town was born with J. M. Lemmon, an attorney, its first Mayor. C. G. Eaton, A. B. French, Zelotes Perrin, Milo Hunter, John LeFever and W. W. Wales were chosen the first council and to them was intrusted the herculean task of forming a government and conducting the affairs of a village. Their privations as municipal officers are a matter of heroic struggle against financial difficulties and pitfalls of inexperience which beset them, but their sound judgment and that of their successors laid the solid foundation of a progressive community, which would be a pleasure to their hearts were they to see the strides which have been taken.

This brief narrative would not be complete without mentioning a word about General McPherson. He of pioneer parentage, who learned the privations of early day life and fought and won against tremendous odds to obtain an education and be appointed to the Military Academy at West Point, was a character of whom any city might be proud. McPherson's life was on open book. His campaigns are recorded among the imperishable history of the nation and his service to the Union was of unestimable value.

Stricken down while in the discharge of his duties in the flower of his young manhood, his life was brought to a tragic close. His name will ever be revered among Clyde people and the cemetery which bears his name and all that is mortal of his being will always be one of the beauty spots of northern Ohio. The great Highway over whch millions pass every year has been named in his love and memory.

James B. McPherson, soldier, citizen, a hero of his country and an honor to the town which gave him birth.

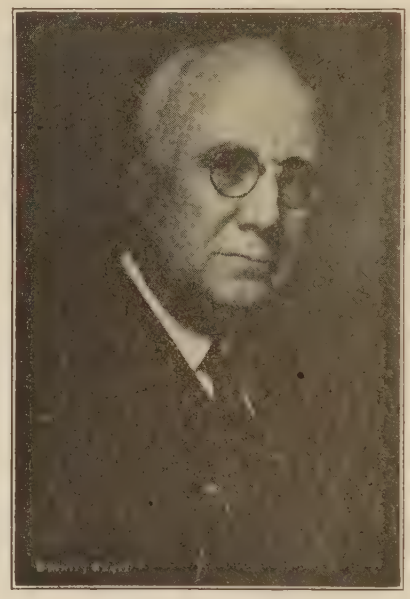
Where Are We Going?

Address of W. S. Diggs, Pittsburgh, Pa., at Annual Reunion, Fremont, O., September 3, 1927

"It is difficult to imagine, when we think of the fine productive farms, with every comfort, the flourishing cities and villages, the fine homes, churches, schools, railways, telephone, telegraph, radio, rural mail, and air service, that this wonderful community about 100 years ago was a dense wilderness inhabited by the North American Indian. This remarkable change came with the advent of the white man and the going of the Indian.

Spain first discovered this rich and beautiful section, but did not take possession following discovery. France and England each made serious and positive claims, following discovery with occupancy, however.

The Red Man had no fee in the lands he occupied, no color of title; simply a vested right, which could only be invaded by war or through a treaty. It is a long story, but suffice it to say that France exercised sovereignty over the region of the St. Lawrence, of which this section, Sandusky County, was a part. She enlarged her territorial domain to include the Mississippi and tributaries —this was followed by settlements, erection and occupancy of military



W. S. DIGGS

and trading posts along rivers and lakes, including the Sandusky River and Bay.

Notwithstanding actual occupancy by France, England during all the time disputed the right of France, claiming title to herself through the Cabots in 1498. Cartier did not make his claim for the French until 1534—thirty-six years later. England also gained some advantage through treaty relations with six nations of Indians. The British traders entered the Sandusky Valley up the Bay and River as early as 1700 and finally built the block house or Stockade on Sandusky Bay in 1745. Although France resented the so-called hostile invasion, England remained in possession.

The unwise and oppressive policy of England toward the Colonies brought on the Revolutionary War. Finally, following the Paris treaty of peace of 1783, the Thirteen Colonies became free and all rights relinquished to them by England. Existing boundary disputes were settled. All the territory bounded by the Lakes, the Ohio and the Mississippi became public domain and by act of Congress July 13, 1787, was organized as the Northwest territory, of which Sandusky County became an important part.

James Whitaker and his wife, Elizabeth Foulks Whitaker, were the first white settlers. Their history as first settlers is most interesting but too long to enter into on this occasion.

The history of Sandusky County brings before us most vividly the trials, hardships, and privations of the early pioneer life and the singleness of purpose of its early settlers to clear away the dense woodland and drain the swamp and make the whole valley a veritable garden spot, indeed one of the most productive sections in the whole country.

One of the problems of the pioneer was transportation. Your treasurer, James D. Hensel, with his father, the late Adam Hensel, would go to the lake, about eighteen miles, for fish. The travel was so difficult that one mile an hour was real progress. The driving time to and from the lake was about thirty-six hours. Just think of the contrast now presented. Colonel Charles A. Lindberg, the hero of the air, flew on March 21, 1927, from New York to France, a non-stop flight of 3160 miles, in thirty-three hours and twenty-eight minutes. From the Hensel home one mile north of Four Mile House, it took from two and one-half to three hours to reach Fremont. Now the trip is made in an automobile in ten minutes.

It is worthy of note that seventy-six years ago this fall (1927) the first locomotive passed over the L. S. & M. S. Railway from Toledo to Fremont. Mr. James D. Hensel saw it as it passed their home, being a boy three years old.

The past six years more money has been spent for garages and service stations than for either schools, churches, or theatres. Even in Boston with all its culture, they spend $1.67 per annum per capita for school buildings and $5.10 per capita for garages and service stations.

Apropo of this and my mention of the Cabots, Anne Jordon, who tired of hearing of her husband's ancestry, proposed the following toast:

"Oh here's to blue blooded Boston,
The home of the bean and the cod.
Where the Lowels speak only to Cabots
And the Cabots speak only to God."

Referring again to aviation, Lord Thompson, former British Air Minister, says, "Any nation that wants to be prepared and safe in the event of war must encourage flying in time of peace." "Knowing how to fly like knowing how to swim or ride is an asset for all time."

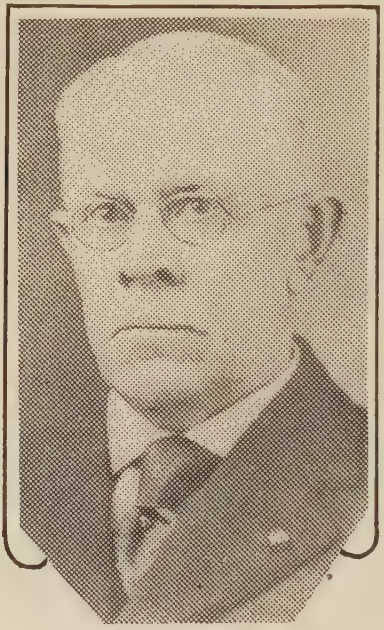
The British, the Germans, and other European nations, as well as Asia, teach flying to their young men. Boys at Oxford are taught to fly.

"Air Taxis Limited" is a company in England. You telephone for a plane to take you from London to Cairo, or up to some resort in Scotland, and the plane is ready as soon as you are. The "Air taxi" for journeys of moderate distance will soon be cheaper than road taxis—real flying has become a fact.

Our Heroes

Memorial Day Address of Prof. E. F. Warner of Bellevue, Ohio

This is no ordinary occasion. The time, the place, the purpose of our assembling raises it above the ordinary. For half a century and more the thirtieth of May has been a time upon which the American people, whether in countryside, in straggling hamlet, or crowded city have left their various occupations to do honor to the men living and dead who in time of stress and storm have maintained the honor, the traditions and the ideals of the American nation.



PROF. E. F. WARNER

We have gathered in a city of the dead, a city perhaps as populous as the living, bustling city that lies around us. The graves of fathers and mothers, of wives and husbands, of lovers and sweethearts, of children of kindred, are about us. Certainly this is no place for anything but the tenderest of sentiments, the purest of motives. Ambitions, rivalries, selfishness, all forms of egotism have no place here. What we think, what we say, what we teach here should rise to the best that is in us.

We have gathered for a common, definite purpose. For the time being the ordinary lines which separate us into parties, or sects, or classes or interests, are forgotten in the thought that we, all, are Americans. The lesson of the day has to do with Americanization in the highest and best sense. America has stood and we trust ever will stand for liberty under law, equality of opportunity, justice to all. During the American Revolution, the Civil War, the war with Spain, and the World War, the foregoing have been our impelling motives. It is fitting then that in all exercises of the day we should aim to teach the youth of our nation and the foreigners in our midst, the aims, ideals, purposes and aspirations of our people. It is through our literature, our songs, our monuments, our national holidays, our heroes that we seek to inculcate the doctrines of loyalty patriotism, duty.

For many years, yea decades, we placed floral wreaths upon the graves of our Civil war veterans with an occasional one upon the graves of a Revolutionary hero. Since 1918, however, there have been added to these a considerable number of graves that mark the resting place of young men who made the supreme sacrifice in the World War; who died that liberty might be preserved among men. It is but yesterday that the names of Mugg, Franks, Endle, Goers, Sherman, Heyman and others were carried upon our school rolls. Now they are on the hero roll.

New chapters of American history have been written recently. Along with Lexington, Bunker Hill, Saratoga and Yorktown; along with Gettysburg, Antietam, the Wilderness and Chickamauga; we now have Chateau Thierry, San Mihiel, Belleau Wood, the Argonne Forest.

We cannot but feel that the example of the men of 1861-65 inspired and enthused the men of 1918 as they broke the Hindenburg line and pushed the foe from devastated France and Belgium.

All honor to the American soldier, whether fighting before Richmond, on his way from Atlanta to the sea, in Cuba, the Philippines, France, Belgium, Italy, or frozen Siberia.

We are now removed by fifty-five years from the closing scenes of the Civil war. These years have taken their toll of the survivors. Bent and bowed, seared and scarred are the few who remain. Six or eight years at most and "taps" will have sounded for the last surviving veteran of the Civil war in Bellevue. On the other hand, ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty and more years will see the soldier of the American Legion with us at the services of Memorial day. Therefore, I feel that you agree with me that it is fitting and proper that these aged veterans should have a very large place in our thought at this time.

It certainly is a distinguished honor to have served your country at a time that gave us such a constellation of great names as Lincoln, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Stanton, Chase, Thomas, Hancock, Custer Farragut.

This is a small group of men, but I see before me those who as raw recruits were in the bloody battles of Perryville and Nashville, those who were with Sherman on his march from Atlanta to the sea, those who charged with the cavalry of Gregg and Merritt at Gettysburg, those who know something of Sheridan's famous ride, and of the taking of Mobile by Farragut. In this small Bellevue contingent are men who carry wounds received at Winchester, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness and New Hope church. Some who can tell of Life at Libby and Belle Isle. One who suffered the horrors of Andersonville. One who has as comrades in the old 23d O. V. I., Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley, late presidents of the United States, one who was in the mine explosion at Peterburg, one who saw the surrender of Johnston's army near Goldsboro in North Carolina, and several who saw the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. This is but the briefest resume of services rendered; for time would fail me to tell of Shiloh and Stone River; of Kenesaw Mountain and Rocky Face; of Cedar Creek and Hatcher's Run; of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge; of marches, raids and skirmishes innumerable, of life in camp, hospital and prison.

The men who left the farm, the factory, the mine, the store, school,

college in the great national crises of 1861, 1898 and 1917 did so not because they loved the blare of the trumpet, or the spectacle and pageantry of war, but as a matter of duty They did not seek the "bubble reputation at the cannon's mouth," but they did seek to render a very necessary service in defense of justice and liberty.

To the younger men and those of our women who were enrolled for the World War let me say, that the people of Bellevue feel and appreciate more deeply than they can express a gratitude for the services you rendered in 1917-18. You were engaged in a stupendous task. The like of which the world had not before seen. You were called upon to face a warfare from earth and sea and sky. To encounter in addition to the ordinary means of waging such warfare, those additional elements contributed by the discoveries of modern science—you faced the submarine, the airplane, liquid fire, poison gas and disease.

Some of your number lie at rest among the hills of France. In spirit we wreathe those graves along with these. You, too, know the tension and strain of war, as it came in the hour before the order for "over the top," in the vigil ever maintained on "No Man's Land," while under long-range, high-explosive fire. You were gassed and wounded and you too have known long days in hospitals and convalescent camps. We honor the armless sleeves you carry. Henceforth the American Legion shares with the Grand Army of the Republic the love and gratitude of the American people.

The fortunes of war in both these great struggles called some into battle and prison, others it held to guard and garrison duty; some were sent overseas to France, Belgium, Italy, others were given commonplace duties in home camps. Yet all these men stood ready to do their nation's bidding. To all we are indebted.

"Nor shall their glory be forgot
While Fame her record keeps,
Or Honor points the hallowed spot
Where Valor proudly sleeps.
Nor wreck, nor change, nor winter's blight,
Nor Time's remorseless doom
Can drive one ray of holy light
That gilds their glorious tomb."

What is the significance of all this toil, danger, hardship, suffering, death?

Simply this: That out of it all might be builded a nation founded on the eternal principles of justice and right. A nation that would stand as a beacon to the oppressed and down-trodden of every race and clime.

Have we succeeded? If we were to listen to the voice of the partisan and the demagogue we might answer, No. But sturdy common sense knows better. If we stop but a moment to reflect, and to contrast our condition with that of even the most favored nations of the world we recognize that ours, with all our unrest and mal-administration, is nevertheless the happiest and best ordered land the sun shines upon.

What the soldier sacrificed to found and to preserve, we each of us should determine to perpetuate. Every true American at a time like this should stand for safe, sane, orderly government, in harmony with the Divine thought: "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." We should realize that, as Rev. Thos. K. Beecher puts it, "To be a good soldier and to die is a manly feat. To be a good citizen, upright before God and downright with men is manliest of all because more complex, difficult and least rewarded." This, then, is the task that invites all that is best in our citizenship. If we all do our duty, especially those who are younger, it may and will be said ever of America: She is the leader of nations, the hope of mankind.

How Our Schools Train Citizens

By Amelia R. Lutz

In the preface of a recently published text on Civics the author says: "We Americans believe that our country is the greatest country on earth....Whether or not the United States shall be the greatest nation in the world fifty years from now rests with the young men and young women of today, the voters of tomorrow."

It is the duty of our schools to train good, intelligent citizens. To do this our young people must be taught how our government originated and why it should be defended and supported. Very frequently I have heard the remark, and no doubt you have too, "I never liked to study history because I could never remember dates." Now, some dates every patriotic citizen ought to know. We should know why our nation celebrates July 4th; why in this community we celebrate August 2nd (sometimes); why the Philadelphia Exposition of 1876 was called the Centennial Exposition.

But dates in themselves are not history, for history is more than dates; it is a very live thing. Every important movement or institution has back of it an underlying cause. In the fifteenth century commerce between Europe and the East was paralyzed because the Turks had captured Constantinople. A new commercial route had to be found to supply the demand of western Europe for Oriental goods, and in consequence America was discovered. When the Spanish discovered gold in the New World Englishmen got the fever to "get rich quick" and flocked to America as people did to the Klondike a few years ago, and as they are doing in Florida today, and Virginia was settled. The early Stuart kings deprived the English people of their rights in the government and forced them to worship in the Established Church, of which the king was the head. This led to the settlement of New England and laid the foundation for our civil and religious freedom.

What is true of our early history is true of every movement down to the present time. After the Revolutionary War our paper money was worth little more than the German mark; the same was true, though to a less extent, of the Greenbacks of the Civil War; because a piece of paper with only the government stamp upon it does not make good money. Today we have five kinds of paper money, all of which are accepted without question at their face value, because every dollar represents a real money value in gold or silver deposited largely in the treasury at Washington.

These are the things we attempt to teach our young people.

But history alone is not sufficient. Our boys and girls must also know the practical side of citizenship. So in our 9th grade Community Civics classes pupils are taken to the banks, the newspaper plants, the court house. Classes in occupation are taken to the various factories to give them an insight into the real work. The classes in agriculture attend sales in the country to put an estimate on the price of cattle, or they trim trees and shrubs. Mock trials and mock elections make a deeper impression on the mind of the student than the facts learned from a textbook.

Knowledge of the past only will not make intelligent citizens, so our work is supplemented with current events. Too often we endorse or condemn a movement without knowing the underlying cause. The pupils are expected to learn the reason for the question or topic of the day and at the same time to study both sides of the question, for only then can a judgment be formed. Of course, their deductions are sometimes crude; but I have often been impressed at the keen insight our young people have when they become in-

terested in a subject. This leads to discussion and naturally and unconsciously to debate—a thing boys and girls enjoy and at the same time it gives them a broader view of life.

Ohio has made history so rapidly in the last decade or two that an up-to-date text on Ohio Civics was unavailable, so some of our senior classes made their own Civics. I believe there are still on file at Birchard Library several of these pamphlets; one entitled "Civics of Ohio," another "What Every Voter Should Know." I recall how proud the pupils were of the kind word of praise for their work from Miss Keeler, who was at that time secretary of the Library Board.

Twice a year we have an Americanization Program in the court room across the way. Pupils are urged to attend and report on the preceeding. These programs give them a better understanding of what is expected of an American citizen. One class became so interested that they put on a mock program for the benefit of those who could not attend. There were representatives of different nationalities. Some applied for first papers, some for final papers; then followed the examination to prove to the Judge that the applicants were qualified, and after taking the oath of allegiance a pupil representing a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented each new citizen with an American flag. These programs admitting foreigners to our citizenship are very interesting, and I sincerely hope nothing will ever prevent this public demonstration. Yet every time I attend I think of the hundred or two young men and women who attain their majority in this community every year and nothing is done to impress upon them the importance of their newly acquired power—to vote. So it was with a great deal of satisfaction and pleasure that I saw that in the resolutions of the Council of the General Federation of Women's Clubs there was one to make July 4th Citizens' Day and have a celebration in honor of the new voters. Such a movement should produce good results. Since interest is a large factor in success, programs must be varied or old methods camouflaged.

While mock elections have been a part of our work for some time, we have enlarged our program from time to time. Recently our high school body has been considered a community or a municipality; the graduating class constituting the voting body, consisting of two political parties, and each section of the history class being a ward. Petitions are circulated by each party to nominate candidates for mayor, president of the council and councilmen-at-large; local elections are made for ward councilmen.

Platforms are drawn up by each party, and after the primary elections each holds a rally. Registration primary and general elections are held as nearly as possible as they are in the real government.

Throughout all this work pupils are urged to think of the good of the community, that is the school, both in nominating and electing candidates for office. After the general election the Council is organized, approves the appointment of the mayor, passes rules and ordinances and publishes them with authority for executive officers to carry them out All these transactions are published in the school notes of our local daily papers. If an official is negilent of his duties or conducts himself inan unbecoming manner, he is asked to resign, and the council fills the vacancy.

All this work is done by the pupils themselves, the teachers only directing or suggesting when requested. Such officials as well as other voters are urged to work for the interests of the community. They take pride in their work and the pupils keep a check on each other.

These are some of the things our schools are doing to preserve our heritage of a government "of the people, by the people and for the people" and to keep our country the best nation on earth.

PART TWO

Activities of Sandusky County Historical Society Since Publication of Last Year Book

GREETINGS

Address Delivered at One of The Annual Reunions

In the first instance I desire to express my appreciation of the honor of addressing you and in token of my appreciation I will try and be brief in claiming your time and attention as there are others present with whom I am to share your time.

When this Society was founded it was given the name of "The Sandusky County Pioneer & Historical Society" but during the past year it has been re-named and is now called and known as "The Sandusky County Historical Society," the word "Pioneer" being left out of the title.

I am a native of this county and have been a member of this Society for several years and have always been proud of my membership as I felt it, in a way at least, showed by my staying that I appreciated the advantages that were offered me in the County in which I was born and reared, and in which County I have helped to cut some of the timber and clear the stumps from some of the best farm land upon which the sun has ever shone.

No one will question the good of societies of this kind, as they have had a part in preserving local history and making the record of the progress of our parents in their advancement from the log hut to the palaces; from the ox cart to the automobile, flying machine and raido as methods of habitation, transportation and communication.

And in recording their history of successful efforts, we are perpetuating the history of the progress of our local government and its various institutions that have been built for us with such great care and fidelity of purpose for our betterment by those who have gone before. These various institutions of government are not accidents, but are as they were intended by our forefathers to be, and are all of them planned and built for our peace, comfort and safety; and that statement brings us to the words of the poet who wrote:

"An old man traveling a lone highway,
Came at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a Bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near
"You are wasting your strength in building here,
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way,
You have crossed the chasm deep and wide,
Why build you this bridge at eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head,
"Good friend, in the path I have
come," he said,
"There follows after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this
way,
This chasm that has been as naught
to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pit-
fall be,
He, too, must cross in the twilight
dim,
Good friend, **I am building this
bridge for him."**

This poem is but an expression of what our forefathers and the pioneers of this country intended to do and have done for us who are now following in their footsteps along the path of life although we may be going at a much faster gait than they ever intended us to go; nevertheless, all their plans and all their improvements show clear intent to provide safety of conscience as well as saftey of person for those to follow.

I feel that if luck enters anywhere into the handiwork of nature, we ,who were born and reared in Sandusky County in this great State of Ohio, are truly lucky, for Ohio, if not all, is certainly a part at least, of God's fairest country.

"The sun never shone on a country
more fair
Than beautiful peerless Ohio,
There's life in a breath of her rari-
fied air,
Ohio, Prolific Ohio.
Her sons are valiant and noble and
bright.
Her beautiful daughters are just
about right,
And her babies, God bless them, are
clear out of sight,
And that crop never fails in "Ohio."

And it will be noticed that Sandusky County is not out-distanced in the race by any of its 87 sister counties within the borders of Ohio, (or elsewhere for that matter), when it comes to having the good things in life that are to be garnered from nature's storehouse. We have them all right at our doorstep, if not inside the house, and if we do not have them on hand are at least in position to telephone for them and have them brought at once, if they are wanted for our pleasure or comfort.

It may be true that sometimes even in this beautiful Sandusky County in this wonderful State of Ohio some person who is rich and lazy with nothing to do but kill time, may feel lonesome, but let us remember that the poet has exppressed a thought that is convincing and perhaps somewhat consoling to this class of persons, when he wrote:

"Way down deep within their hearts,
EVERYBODY'S LONESOME:
Far within their secret thoughts,
Everybody's lonesome.
It makes no difference how they
smile,
How they live or what their style,
Once in every little while,
Everybody's lonesome.
People first in big affairs,
Even they are lonesome,
Maybe they like to "put on airs,"
Just the same they're lonesome.
Men toward whom fortune bends,
Men who strive and gain all ends.
Still stretch out their hand for
friends,
For everybody's lonesome.
Women, silk-clad, jeweled fine,
Yes, they too are lonesome,
When their gems the brightest shine,
They are just as lonesome,
Some must serve and some command.
All still seek with groping hand,
Love and friends who understand
That everybody's lonesome."

Let us not however allow ourselves to become so lonesome or on the other hand so taken up with business affairs as to fail to see the many good things in life that are each day continually claiming our attentions and seeking to give us pleasure even when we feel that life is not all sunshine and that our beds are not all roses. As life is just about what you make it and as it is just as easy to see the bright spots in the picture as it is to see the dark ones, we must make it our business to get all out of this life that we can or we have not entirely fulfilled our mission on this earth. However, in

making it our business to do a certain thing we should at all times remember that:

"Business is business, but he is a fool,
Who has let his business grow to smother,
His faith in men and the Golden Rule,
His love for a friend and brother.

Business is business, but life is life,
Though we are all in the game to win it,
Let's rest sometimes from the heat and strife,
And try to be friends for a minute.

Let's seek to be comrades now and then,
And slip from our golden tether,
And while business is business, men are men;
So let's all be good friends together."

By reading the printed year books of the proceedings of this Historical Society we find that heretofore we have been told of the hardships of the early settlers of this and surrounding counties; That we have been told how and when this county was formed and from what territory it was carved and who its first officers were, who first held court in the county, and where and who was first tried and convicted of murder and of selling whiskey to the Indians, and while we can look around with great pride and see nothing but advancement in our method of trials and the improvement of farms, roads, schools and churches, we are nevertheless confronted with the facts that we have made no improvement in the grade of whiskey or the manner in which it formerly was, and now is sold to the "Indians" in this community.

I am told that 75 years ago there were various whiskey distilleries in Sandusky County that were doing a thriving business and I am likewise told that there are several still in this same County at this time doing a good business, although I am not informed that they are the same stills or orperated by the same families who first started the business, and as none of them have been officially found I am almost forced to conclude that they do not exist and that it is but recollection amounting to a suspicion and not a fact that they are to be found at this time in Sandusky County.

However, if they do exist, we all know that these matters will soon get better and that this one dark spot on our fair picture will soon be brushed out. We should not expect to heal the social ulcer in a few months or years that was many years in coming upon us, but should be willing to do our part in clearing up this difficulty the same as the founders of this society cleared the land of trees, brush and stumps and left it to us as one of the most healthy, beautiful and bountiful places for man to abide.

I have not undertaken to touch upon the history of our community in my remarks for the reason that I feel that others will fully cover that subject, but I can not refrain from saying as I look into the faces of so great a number of persons past 80 years of age that you are truly to be congratulated for what you have accomplished in clearing and draining this so called black swamp and producing a garden spot of beauty for those who are to take up your burdens when you see fit to lay them down of your own accord, or when you have been called by your Maker to cease work, if you are of those who feel that they must still continue to labor in order to be happy.

We all like the Pioneer for his reputed truth, his rugged honesty of purpose, his plain, open and frank manner of dealing; for, as we are told and as we remember, he made no pretense of being something that he was not; he was no cheat or trimmer; in his every day walks of life, he said what he meant and meant what he said; he believed in God and worshipped in accordance with the dictates of his own conscience.

"He went on Sunday to the church,
And sat among his boys,
He heard the parson preach and pray,
He heard his daughter's voice,
Singing in the Village Choir,
And it made his heart rejoice."

He was a good citizen from any stand-point that you might choose to view him, and it is to the memory of the pioneer man and woman that we pay our respects today and whose history this society is intended to perpetuate for all time to come.

And now fellow citizens I can think of no better way of closing my remarks to you than to give to you for your thought and guidance the words of that wonderful poet, when he wrote,

"So live that when thy summons comes to join
That innumerable caravan, which moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take,
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not like the quarry slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed,
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Annual meeting of the Trustees was held August 1, 1925, at Birchard Library, President, A. E. Culbert in the chair.

Ordered that portrait of R. B. Hayes appear on badge of 1926 annual reunion.

Ordered an advance payment of $100 to T. J. Maxwell for printing year-book of 1925.

President, Treasurer and Mrs. W. H. Keller constituted a committee to call on County Commissioners to try and secure larger appropriation for the Society.

Ordered printed 500 of the Year-book for 1925.

All retiring trustees except Mr. Miller and Miss Brunner reelected for 3 years; A. J. Love elected in place of Mr. Miller, and Mr. Louis Nickel in place of Miss Brunner.

Portrait of James L. Parks ordered printed on badge for 1925.

President and Secretary instructed to procure speaker.

Miss, Keeler, Miss Snyder and Mr. Fouche appointed a committee on program.

Mr. Hensel appointed a committee to have 400 badges printed.

Miss Snyder chosen to have charge of music and Mrs. Finch, assistant.

Treasurer, J. D. Hensel reported balance on hand $256.54.

Trustees then elected officers for coming year: A. E. Culbert, President; George H. Waggoner, Vice President; Byron A. Fouche, Secretary; J. D. Hensel, Treasurer; Rev. E. Gerfen, Chaplain; Mrs. T. J. Maxwell, Chorister; Miss Mabelle Snyder, Accompanist.

Adjourned to August 2, 1926.

B. A. Fouch, Sec.

Fifty-third Annual Reunion

Saturday, September 6, 1925

The meeting was called to order in the high school auditorium by Pres. A. E. Culbert at eleven o'clock. The invocation was offered by Rev. S. C. Henderson of the First Brethren Church, which was followed by the singing of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" led by Mrs. Lulu Bowman Finch.

Judge A. E. Culbert opened the program of entertainment as arranged by Mr. Fouche with the following story:

A citizen of Fremont met a party of tourists this side of Bettsville. The tourists drove their car to the roadside and said to the Fremont gentleman, "We are from Missouri as you will probably note from the number plates on our car, and we would like 'to be shown' the way to Sandusky, Ohio. We have just passed a sign which says 'Leave Seneca county and enter Sandusky county.' Has this anything to do with Sandusky city? The Fremont gentleman then told them "No;" that Sandusky city was in Erie county and that he would be delighted to show them the route, and thereupon advised them to follow the brick pavement until it intersected with a concrete road, then turn to the right; that about four miles down, and on the left of the road they would come to Spiegel Grove, the home of ex-President Hayes and now a park belonging to the state of Ohio. That in the northerly part of the Grove they would find a museum and library which would be well worth while to visit. That the Spiegel Grove park was destined to become a national shrine and one of the most beautiful spots in America.

A lady in the rear seat then took out her note book and asked the Fremont gentleman to please repeat what he had said about Spiegel Grove; that she had heard of it and that she was a teacher of history in her home state and desired to tell her pupils about it.

The Fremont gentleman said, After leaving Spiegel Grove, which is located just within the boundary line of the city of Fremont, you will travel east on what is known as Hayes Ave., until you come to Park Ave., known in the earlier days as Main Street. The history of Main Street has been written by a very estimable and talented lady of Fremont, and the story is very interesting.

You then turn to the left on Park Ave. and travel about four blocks when you will come to a point, being the most westerly place reached by the English army in the War of 1812. You will then travel to your right on Croghan street. This street is named for Col. George Croghan, who commanded the American forces at Lower Sandusky, now Fremont, at the battle of Fort Stephenson, and who, with a force of 160 men, successfully repulsed the British and Indian army of a force of about 2,000 men.

You will stop your car one block east of Park Ave., on Croghan street, and to the right observe the site of Fort Stephenson, where "Old Betsy," the cannon used by Col. Croghan and his men did effective work during the battle on August 2nd and 3rd, 1813. You will then pass down Croghan Street to the business section. Then drive to the left until you come to what is known as McPherson Highway, then cross the river to the right and the next town you reach will be Clyde, a splendid little city in San-

dusky county, with about 3,500 population. Clyde is noted for two things:

First, it was the home of Gen. James B. McPherson, the highest ranking officer killed in battle during the Civil War, and the home of George M. Meek, the first American soldier killed in the Spanish War. As you pass along through the village you will observe to the left perhaps the most beautiful and well kept cemetery to be found anywhere.

You will find in this cemetery a statue of Gen. McPherson. It will pay you to stop a few minutes to view this beautiful city of the dead. You will then turn to the left on the west side of the cemetery and follow the brick pavement through Castalia and on to Sandusky.

It would be well if you would take a drive around Spiegel Grove, and by doing so you will find on the westerly side of the Grove Memorial Parkway. You will find in and about this parkway a large number of buckeye trees. These trees were planted to commemorate the soldiers from Sandusky county who lost their lives in the Spanish American War, the World War and at the Chinese Boxer Uprising. This parkway was donated by Col. Webb C. Hayes, son of ex-President Hayes, as a memorial to the fallen heroes of these wars, of Sandusky county, Ohio.

The people from Missouri were profuse in their thanks, and the history teacher in the rear seat of the car told the Fremont man that she had been well paid and that she would visit the numerous places of interest mentioned in and about our city.

Miss Lucille Hughes gave a stirring reading of a Civil War story, which was followed by the singing of "Onward Christian Soldiers," after which the President introduced Rev. John Todd, pastor of the East Side Presbyterian Church of Fremont, who spoke on the

Cause and Cure of Crime

Mr. Todd said in part: The chief cause of crime is that we are carrying democracy to the extreme. I do not mean the term in a political sense, and I have no love for kings or queens. The idea of the age is that each person can be a law unto himself, and that because we have been granted in our constitution the "right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" we feel that that right consists in doing whatever we desire, regardless of the effect our actions may have on others. Common examples are the man who drives his car at excessive speed, and the man who in pursuit of happiness dynamites a bank that he may secure more material pleasure for himself. The principles of true democracy have been neglected; that kind of democracy that respects the rights of others; a representative democracy.

How to cure it? What is the remedy? They say enforce the law. Half the laws might be gotten rid of, say some; but that does not solve it. If it were not for the law safety and property would be lost; and we should have laws. For the cure for this mania of lawlessness let us turn again to the Old Book, the B'ble, and mix the Golden Rule with the precepts given in the Constitution. If men would only follow happiness for themselves without interfering with the rights and safety of others there would be no crime, and no need of rulers or potentates. In America, however, we have swung so far away from the idea of rulership that we recognize no laws save only those that, at the moment, suit our petty purposes, and we recognize and obey only those mandates that serve our own ends.

Every American citizen should recognize himself as a unit of the aggregate, and put forth every effort to fit into the machinery with as little friction as possible. Our national government is like unto a building in which every stone, every grain of sand and every ounce of mortar is an integral part. Take one stone from the largest building and the building is weakened. Every brick and stone, from the corner stone to the cap stone is necessary to the strength of the structure, and only when every brick is in its proper place does the building become "a thing of beauty and a joy forever,"

capable of withstanding storm throughout the ages.

The early Biblical laws dealt not only with the larger things, but with hygiene and sanitation and every detail of the life of the people. If the children of Israel had folowed not only the Decalogue, but all these minor mandates, they would have never needed a king, or not even the judges. The chosen people disregarded the Divine commands that were given them, and as a consequence needed first the judges, and after 400 years of their rule, kings for another 500 years to attempt to keep order among them. All these methods failed, even as our present methods are failing, because there is no law that can take the place of those first simple laws, to love our neighbors even as we love ourselves and do unto others as we ourselves would be done by.

The trouble with the laws of today is that too many people go crazy immediately after committing a crime. The secret of the cure is the realization of individual responsibility. Preachers, judges, and lawyers are helping in the solution, and the time is coming when crime will be minimized, and men will recognize the will of God. When that day arrives we shall need no further laws; the Democracy will no longer be a menace, but an active, stable part of our daily lives, and crime will be stamped out to the extent of becoming an almost negligible factor of the nation.

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

After lunch in the park the society reassembled at one o'clock, beginning with assembly singing, which was followed by a violin solo by Master George Reed.

H. E. Ryder, County Superintendent of Schools, made a short address in which he spoke of his pride in his pioneer ancestry and his pleasure in becoming an adopted son of a community rich in historical lore. He reviewed the historical events of the county and the marvelous changes that have taken place in American life since the days of Major Croghan. "The necessities of today were considered luxuries by the pioneers and first settlers of Sandusky county, who endured severe privation, but continued to the end....It is our duty to keep the moral growth steadily increasing, and the spirit of our younger generation worthy of their forbears," said Mr. Ryder.

The Americanization Chorus then rendered several popular songs, which was followed by a reading by little Gertrude Carper: "The Youngest in the Family," followed by an encore, Riley's "Little Orphant Annie."

Miss Amelia Lutz followed with an address, "How Our Schools Train Citizens," which we give elsewhere.

After more assembly singing, Judge Irving Carpenter of Norwalk was introduced.

Annual Address by Judge Carpenter

Appreciating the honor of being asked to address the Sandusky County Historical Society, and mindful of its brilliant local history, rich with the heritage of patriotic ideals and historic marks, I am proud to address you, and briefly refer to the men of state and national fame that have made Sandusky County and Fremont famous, Gen. McPherson of Clyde, and President Rutherford Birchard Hayes of Fremont.

As I passed through your county on my way to Fremont, I could not fail to observe the thrift of the farmer, the beautiful fields of waving corn and grain, the well kept lawns and general atmosphere of prosperous thrift.

One item strikes me and I am telling you, that the corn crop alone of Sandusky County for the year represents a million dollars. My imagination pictures to me the wilderness of a hundred years ago when the sturdy, indomitable pioneers came into the west from Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, with strong purpose, powerful mind and sinews, attacking the problems of the wilderness, and many becoming martyrs to the things they sought to conquer.....

Proud will be the citizens of our republic in the future to trace their lineage back to the sturdy pioneer. Study his example, instill history into

the hearts of our boys and girls for their better preparation for the work before them. Like the surveyor, go back into history for your hindsight, mark points in the future, go forward along these lines and by a careful examination of the past you can successfully plan and execute your work for the future.

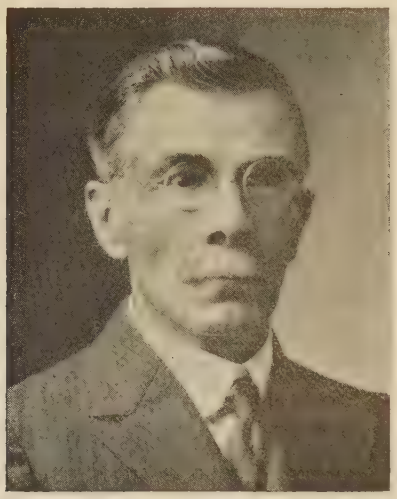
Every other government in the civilized world has changed since 1789 its form of governing its people, but the United States has remained intact, making ours the oldest present form of government existing, while others have either altered their form of government or passed out. Our form of government is being tested by many old countries who have copied it in part, and attempted to add some of our provisions.

Confidence in our government and a careful study of its phases are necessary if we wish to survive. Great problems confront us.....

Judge Carpenter then considered some of the problems to be solved: the increase of crime, the fluctuating value of the dollar, and the increasing prevalence of divorce.....

We should safeguard our boys and girls by keeping them busy and directing their energies so that they will become intelligent and useful. There will be then no fear of or excuse for the criminal. Make their environment better, and their inherited tendencies, if they are bad, will be overcome.....

M. L. Shackelford then gave a vocal solo, "Annie Laurie" and followed with "A Warrior Bold" as an encore.



REV. JOHN TODD

Meetings of Officers and Trustees

Annual meeting of Trustees at Birchard Library, August 2, 1926, President, A. E. Culbert in the chair.

Seven trustees elected for three years to replace those whose terms expired. Elected: R. H. Nagle, for York township; W. A. Gossard for Jackson township; Merritt Mason for Madison township; J. L. Loose for Washington township; J. D. Hensel for Sandusky township; Mrs. Lulu Bowman Finch and B. A. Fouche for Fremont.

Treasurer's report showed balance on hand $213.57.

Ordered that the Trustees defer the election of officers to August 16, 1926, at Birchard Library at 2 P. M.

Ordered that the annual meeting of the Society be held Saturday, September 4, 1926, at Fremont High School auditorium.

President and secretary instructed to secure a speaker for annual meeting.

Mrs. Finch and Miss Snyder constituted a committee to arrange program.

Ordered that all books on hand for Golden Jubilee Year and 1925 be sold at fifteen cents each.

Ordered that portrait of R. B. Hayes be printed on badges for 1926.

Adjourned to August 16, 1926, at same place.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Adjourned meeting of Trustees, August 16, 1926, at Birchard Library, President, A. E. Culbert in chair.

Officers elected: Judge A. W. Overmyer, President; Geo. H. Waggoner, Vice President; B. A. Fouche, Secretary; J. D. Hensel, Treasurer; Rev. John Todd, Chaplain; Mrs. Lulu Bowman Finch, Chorister; Miss Mabelle Snyder, Accompanist.

A. E. Culbert and E. F. Warner selected as speakers for the afternoon of the Annual Reunion, and Rev. John Todd for the forenoon.

Treasurer directed to have 300 badges printed.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Meeting of Trustees, August 28, 1926, at Birchard Library, Vice President, Geo. H. Waggoner in the chair.

Decided to invite the Boy Scout Band of Gibsonburg, Ohio, to furnish music for the annual meeting, September 4, at $15.00.

Decided to invite Rev. E. A. Rieger of Gibsonburg to speak at annual meeting.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Fifty-fourth Annual Reunion

Saturday, September 4, 1926

The fifty-fourth annual reunion was called to order in the high school auditorium by Secretary B. A. Fouche, who prepared the program and assisted the president in its presentation. The Treasurer, Mr. James Hensel, sold the badges, carrying the portrait of Gen. R. B. Hayes, who was the first secretary of the society; he being secretary from 1872 to 1877. Charles Peach had charge of the sale of the year books.

The Boy Scout band of Gibsonburg enlivened the proceedings with some good music, and there were some vocal numbers and readings by people whose names were not reported. Mr. M. L. Shackelford acted as song leader. The speakers of the day were President A. W. Overmyer, B. A. Fouche, Rev. John Todd, Rev. E. A. Rieger of Gibsonburg, Judge W. C. Wierman of Port Clinton, A. E. Culbert, and Supt. E. F. Warner. Mrs. J. D. Merrifield rendered a vocal solo, accompanied by Mrs. Finch.

The morning session was short and convened at 11 o'clock, followed by lunch in the park. Rev. E. Gerfen, Chaplain, of Gibsonburg offered the invocation and then led the assembly in singing "Onward Christian Soldiers."

Mr. Todd said: "What the world needs is not more brains, but more heart. We need more people who will follow in the footsteps of the Man of Galilee." He reviewed the remarkable changes that have taken place in the world, and especially in America, since his boyhood. "These changes are especially noticable in four phases of modern life: the home, the school, hospitals and church." His address was based upon a recent motor trip through Ohio and Michigan, where the rich fields, the fine roads, the beautiful homes, schools, hospitals and churches contrasted vividly with the memories of fifty years ago. As the psalmist says: "The lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places; yea, we have a goodly heritage."....."Religion has been the force that operated to produce all the blessings we realize today. It has been the driving power of the American people since the Declaration of Independence was signed 150 years ago. I am glad to say that men like ex-President Wilson and Harding, and President Coolidge have repeatedly told the American people that the need of the country is more of the spirit of Christ, more carrying out of the precepts of the Sermon on the Mount; but I was surprised to see that so commercial a newspaper as the Wall Street Journal should say editorially that "the preeminent need of this country is more of the religion of our forefathers, who did not begrudge an hour a day, even in busy harvest season, for family worship and prayer."

President A. W. Overmyer, in a brief address, commended the ideals of the society and pledged his aid in furthering the interest of the youth of the country in their historical surroundings. Said he: "I believe the chief value of recalling the past is to remind ourselves of our present blessings." He paid a tribute to Judge W. C. Wierman, whose pupil he was in 1883. He also read a history of the Brooks and Powers families, early settlers.

Judge Wierman spoke on "The Good Old Times," contrasting the early days with those of the present.

Rev. A. A. Rieger of Gibsonburg spoke on "Unbeaten Paths in the

New Historical Era." He went back to the Indian times and spoke poetically of their retreat before the oncoming whites; of the clearings of the settlers and the coming of civilization and Christianity. He reviewed the period of commercial and industrial development following the Civil War and into the twentieth century, and spoke of problems yet unsolved, and said, "We must dig into these problems in this great era of history and begin to lift. We are a courageous people; more courageous than the Romans or the Greeks." Speaking of Nathan Hale, who regretted that he had but one life to give for his country, and of the sincerity and honesty of the forefathers, he declared "We should make as glorious a history for our posterity.

The other speakers were not reported by the daily papers, upon which we had to depend for these notes.

Meetings of Officers and Trustees

Annual meeting of Officers, Directors and Trustees at Birchard Library, August 2, 1927, President A. W. Overmyer in the chair.

Treasurer's report showed balance on hand $340.60.

Directors elected for three years: John J. Lehman, Miss Mabelle Snyder, E. C. Huss, Miss Lucy E. Keeler, E. F. Warner, Frank M. Bauman, Lewis F. White.

Decided to hold Annual Reunion September 3, 1927, at High School auditorium.

Ordered that 400 badges be printed with the portrait of John T. Garver on same.

Ordered that the Boy Scout Band of Gibsonburg be engaged for the Annual Reunion at $15.00.

Ordered that Thos. P. Dewey of Clyde, for the forenoon, and Wm. S. Diggs of Pittsburg, Pa., and W. W. Hofelich, for the afternoon be invited to speak at the Annual Reunion.

Miss Mabelle Snyder invited to prepare remainder of program.

Election of officers deferred to August 13, 1927.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Adjourned meeting August 13. 1927, President A. W. Overmyer in chair.

Letters from E. F. Warner and W. W. Hofelich were read.

Ordered that the portraits of John T. Garver and Leadegan Lehman be each printed on one-half of this year's badges.

Acceptance of Boy Scout Band of Gibsonburg reported.

Officers elected: President, A. W. Overmyer; Vice President, Geo. H. Waggoner; Secretary, B. A. Fouche; Treasurer, J. D. Hensel; Chaplain. Rev. John Todd; Mrs. Finch, Chorister; Miss Snyder, Accompanist.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Fifty-fifth Annual Reunion

Saturday, September 3, 1927

We can only give a short synopsis of the Fifty-fifth Annual Reunion, gleaned from the daily papers. The program was prepared by Secretary Fouche. President A. W. Overmyer opened the meeting with a welcoming address. The chaplain, Rev. John Todd, asked the Divine blessing, and after assembly singing led by Mrs. Finch, Mr. M. L. Shackelford gave a vocal solo.

The president introduced Hon. T. P. Dewey of Clyde, a native of Sandusky county, who spoke on "Pioneers I Have Known." Mr. Dewey named ex-President Hayes and his wife, the late Judge John M. Lemon, John B. Rice, Rev. W. A. Bowman, Homer Everett, E. F. Dickinson, Basil Meek, Gen. R. P. Buckland and others who aided in the building of this country. He deplored the present speed mania, and said, "We are living in a swift age, and all must give way to the cry of speed. Is it proper for us to go on, day after day and month after month without giving any thought to the end?"

Mr. Dewey did not, however, condemn the desire to move ahead, and praised the courage of men like Lindbergh, declaring that during his own time the United States had undergone changes of such vast scope as to be revolutionary. "I remember the days when the first harvester machines were put to work in the wheat fields. They were horse drawn, and so noisy that they could be heard for miles. I remember how we threshed grain on the barn floor by having horses trample it, and by the use of hand flails. I remember when a day's work was from sun-up to sun-set and that a bushel of wheat was considered fair pay for such a day.....The automobile, the airplane and the radio seem like the fantastic visions of a dream; and judging the future by the past, it would seem we have barely touched the rim of inventive possibilities.

President Overmyer, responding, also deplored the speed mania, and said, "We are paying the price for the privileges we enjoy. Statistics show that more Americans were killed in automobile accidents last year than were killed in the World War, and figures show that thus far this year the number already has been increased 125 per cent. The money loss last year was $400,000,000. Our greatest danger lies in disintegration from within. Our wealth and luxury may prove our downfall, as it did to the nations of other days. Teachers have their most difficult task today in teaching young persons who have no responsibilities at home to accept the cares that make for well formed character. Never has teaching been so difficult."

AFTERNOON SESSION

In the afternoon the Americanization Chorus was substituted for the Boy Scout Band, which failed to arrive. Several young people of the county also appeared with readings and songs. Hearing these young folks brought a "piece" to Judge Overmyer's mind which he spoke in his early school days. The judge recited it, and the applause called for an encore, but he could not respond. Jane Newman and Lucy Ruth Waggoner offered readings, and two vocal numbers were presented by Donald and Ronald Ryder accompanied at the piano by their sister.

The first speaker was W. W. Hofelich, auditor of Sandusky county, who

told the elderly people present that they could feel satisfied at having given so much toward the progress of this county. "Wonderful advancement has been made during your lifetime; modern homes have sprung up from the log cabins of your day, woods have been cleared, swamps drained, schools and churches established. The flag today is here to honor you. You can feel assured that your work in building up this country has been as great as if you had been in congress," said Mr. Hofelich.

W. S. Diggs of Pittsburg, Pa., gave the leading address of the day, a part of which we reproduce verbatim in our Historical section, speaking on "Where Are We Going?" He said the railroad officials today are actually afraid that the automobile passenger cars, the motor truck freight lines and fast air service will entirely supersede the railways, and predicted that we will soon take to the air as means of safety from the automobile traffic. "Last year American planes engaged in air mail and regulated commercial flying traveled a total of 2,292,273 miles with but one fatality.....More money was spent for garages and service stations in the United States in 1926 than for schools, churches and theatres."

Mr. Diggs discussed the present plight of the farmer. "In the time of Washington and Jefferson 98 per cent of the population was engaged in farming, in 1925 less than 50 per cent were farmers, and in 1926 a total of 649,000 persons left the farms, and thousands of farms were abandoned in the United States. Yet when there were only 10 per cent of the persons engaged in other pursuits than agriculture, following the Napoleonic wars, John C. Calhoun and Henry Clay, themselves farmers, succeeded in obtaining from congress a tariff that saved the American manufacturers from British competition. Now, when the American farmers are facing a world competition, what help is given them? Agriculture cannot be placed in the condition where the American farmer will be a peasant. It is contrary to American ideals."

Meetings of Officers and Trustees

Meeting of Trustees June 30, 1928, called to order by Secretary. Miss Keeler elected chairman.

Decided to invite Judge Florence Allen of the Supreme Court of Ohio to make principal address at August 2, celebration; also Judge Coonrod, Judge Culbert and Judge Overmyer to make ten-minute speeches.

Ordered that the portraits of W. A. Gossard and Newton Harley be printed on the badges, if cuts available, and 400 badges printed.

Treasurer was directed to have 500 postal cards with program on printed.

Mrs. Finch was invited to take charge of the music August 2.

Secretary was directed to engage the Fremont High School band or the Gibsonburg Boy Scout band for the celebration.

Secretary was directed to confer with Miss Snyder to arrange program.

Adjourned to 1:30 P. M., July 14. 1928.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Adjourned meeting of Trustees, July 14, at Birchard Library, 1:30 P. M., Vice President Geo. H. Waggoner in the chair.

Decided to defer program on August 2, till afternoon, and to meet and elect officers at 1 P. M. on that day.

Adjourned to August 2.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Meeting of Trustees, August 2, 1928, in High School auditorium, Vice President Waggoner in the chair.

Trustees elected: Geo. H. Waggoner, Mrs. W. H. Snyder of Riley twp., Mrs. W. H. Kelly of Scott, Mrs. Geo. Nuhfer of Woodville, W. H. Schwartz, A. J. Love of Clyde and Jacob Darr of Rice Twp.

Officers elected: President, W. H. Schwartz; Vice President, Geo. H. Waggoner; Treasurer, J. D. Hensel: Secretary, B. A. Fouche; Chaplain, Rev. John Todd; Chorister, Mrs. F. R. Finch; Accompanist, Miss Mabelle Snyder.

Treasurer's report showed balance on hand $332.15.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Fifty-sixth Annual Reunion

Thursday, August 2, 1928

President A. W. Overmyer called the meeting to order, and after assembly singing Rev. Fay M. Bowman offered prayer, in the absence of the chaplain, Rev. John Todd. The Gibsonburg Boy Scout Band of thirty-five pieces then played several stirring numbers.

Mayor Lester J. Conners then welcomed the assembly on behalf of the city of Fremont.

The main feature of the afternoon was the address by Judge Florence E. Allen.

Judge Allen's Address

Standing upon this historic ground, conscious of the significant forces astir in the nation in 1813 when the striking battle was fought at Fort Stephenson, I feel it a particular distinction to be asked here to celebrate the anniversary of a great day. The irresistible valor and power typical of the finest in the country was shown in Croghan's inspiring message to General Harrison when after being instructed to withdraw, he notified his commanding officer that "We have determined to maintain this place, and by heaven we can." Here in this county we have traditions of which we may well be proud; traditions of courage and self-sacrifice left us by the men and women of those stirring days who believed that giving was better than getting; that working to attain an ideal was more than any material wealth, and that in the long run, helping to work out the great enterprise of human advancement is the highest privilege that any man or woman can have. In our revolution we had not only declared our independence, but we had declared very advanced political doctrine. We had said that the purpose of government was to do right and justice, and not only that, but that the ultimate righteousness of law should apply even to the state itself. We said that the state should not be supreme over the moral law.

Abraham Lincoln expressed it magnificently when he said that other governments were founded upon the denial of human rights, but that this government was established upon the affirmation of human rights. Hence it is of supreme importance that after that doctrine was declared in the Declaration and in the Constitution the country should be free and unhampered in its development; that it should be enabled to build up the framework of its organization in order to work out the great spiritual laws laid down in the charter of our liberty.....The age challenges us to cooperate in establishing the spiritual law as our forefathers aided in setting up the fabric of our government. Just as men like Croghan fought with their daring valor to defend our government from perilous attack, we have to cooperate in maintaining the spirit of our institutions and in repelling the insidious enemies which from within attack the very center of the nation's life stream. Men and women fail to cooperate because they do not sit on the jury, and they pull every possible wire to evade jury service.....

When we established a republic here we abolished the conception of private property in public office, and we said that those who held office should hold it as a sacred trust to represent the people from whom the office comes; that it should be not a government of the officials and for the officials, but a government of the people, by the people and for the people. Then too, we abolished the idea that there should be distinction

between men in securing human rights, and in place of that idea we raised the new conception that, regardless of wealth or influence or race or condition, men and women should stand equal before the law, and the same justice and equity should be applied to every situation. Have we been able to establish those principles with the same magnificent success which marks the building of our governmental structure?.....

The citizen who does not register and vote is just as blame-wortny as the man who might have run away when the battle of Fort Stephenson was coming on.....

Conscious of our great power, the length of America's day, the measure of our force and influence as a nation depends upon those who cooperate in erecting and maintaining the old standards of the law, which require that officials hold their offices in trust for the people, and that every human being be given equal justice, without regard to his wealth or race or condition. We must cooperate in molding public opinion to the attainment of these great ends. And when we do this, so long as we do this, the sun of America will not set, but will always rise.

Dr. Harlow Lindley, librarian of Hayes Memorial Library, delivered an historical address on "Opportunities," which we have utilized at the opening of this book. Judge A. W. Overmyer gave a historical review of Northwestern Ohio, which we have also utilized in Part One. Judge A. E. Culbert gave a short address, of which we have no report. Hon. E. F. Warner of Bellevue was scheduled for an address, but asked to be excused because of the length of the program.

Musical features were furnished by the band and a piano solo by Ruth Ryder, and three numbers by the Americanization Chorus. Albert Willer also favored with a patriotic recitation.

The program was arranged by the secretary, Mr. Fouche.

Meetings of Officers and Trustees

Meeting of Trustees and Officers at Birchard Library, January 15, 1929, President W. H. Schwartz in the chair.

After a discussion, Mr. Bauman of Ballville was selected to investigate the propriety of publishing a year-book, ascertain the availability of material, and report in four weeks.

Adjourned to meet four weeks from date.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Meeting of Officers and Trustees in Birchard Library, July 6, 1929, President W. H. Schwartz in the chair; Miss Snyder, Secretary pro tem.

Ordered that we have post cards printed announcing 2nd of August meeting.

Miss Snyder and Mrs. Finch appointed committee on music.

Ordered that portrait of J. W. Moore be printed on badges. Mr. Hensel authorized to attend to same.

Ordered that badges be sold for fifteen cents.

Mabelle Snyder, Sec., pro tem.

Meeting of Officers and Trustees at Birchary Library, July 20, 1929, President Schwartz in the chair.

Ordered to engage Boy Scout band of Gibsonburg for August 2.

Decided to invite Judge A. W. Overmyer, Senator A. G. Aigler, and Rev. R. B. Foster as afternoon speakers; W. H. Schwartz. J. L. Loose and F. M. Bauman as forenoon speakers.

Secretary directed to get cards and send them out to Trustees.

Treasurers report showed balance on hand $430.15.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Fifty-seventh Annual Reunion

Friday, August 2, 1929

The fifty-seventh annual reunion was opened at 11 a. m. by President W. H. Schwartz. The chaplain, Rev. John Todd, asked the Divine blessing and then President Schwartz made a short opening address. Mr. Schwartz said in part:

I am proud to be a member of this organization and to be included in this body of men and women who have made history in this county. While I cannot personally remember some of those things which you have lived, I have heard stories of the old days from my grandfather and great-grandfather. My great-grandfather came to Sandusky county when it was part of the famous Black Swamp, and had to clear land before he could build a home.

This room should be filled with young people, who could learn many valuable lessons from you. I cannot help but admire these men who have lived clean and honest lives, and the young people of this fast age, who find their pleasure in drinking bootleg liquor and other dissipations, could learn the lessons of living a long life, and building an honorable character from you. We are indebted to you for our fine highways, for our rich farms, and for our great cities.....He then paid a tribute to Miss Lucy E. Keeler for her work in preparing many excellent treatises on the history of Sandusky county.....Today we should pay our respects to those men who have kept this organization alive, to the late Col. James W. Moore, whose picture adorns the ribbons which you are wearing, to Rev. W. A. Bowman, and to Judge W. C. Wierman, and others who worked with them.

Mr. Schwartz read a letter from Will J. Moore of Detroit, son of the late Col. Moore, expressing his appreciation of the fact that his father's picture was used on the souvenir badges.

J. L. Loose of Lindsey, 93, the oldest member present was introduced but asked to be excused from making a speech, and Judge Wierman substituted for him. Said Judge Wierman:

People talk about the good times the young folks have now-a-days. I wouldn't exchange my boyhood with any of them. We had good times; none better. I can remember what a treat it was when we stopped at the home of George Waggoner, Sr., grandfather of the George Waggoner who is meeting with you today and got a big piece of cheese. How we feasted on that cheese, and what a treat it was! A wise man once said. "Once I was young, and now I am old, but I have never seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." That is as true today as the day it was said; and every one of us could truthfully make the same statement. It has been nearly 72 years since my father landed at Washington Station, now known as Lindsey. I went to school and to Sunday School with R. W. Sherrard, and we thought we were dressed up when we had a pair of clean denim trousers to wear. Mr. Loose once hired me to teach in the district schools, so you see I know many of these members of old.....

The best cure for the immoral conditions of the "jaz age" would be obedience to the old maxim, "early to bed and early to rise." In these days the young folks don't get started on their fun until I am nearly ready to get up. You white haired mothers and fathers sitting here have performed a high duty for mankind.

The parents now shirk their responsibility. They pass it on to the teachers of the public schools.

F. M. Bauman, a resident of Ballville for 72 years was the next speaker. Mr. Bauman said in part.

I have lived in one place for 72 years. I have never moved in my life. My father moved to America in the early thirties. He lived in York state for a few years, and in 1836 came to Fremont, where our family has since lived. I can remember when Jonas Smith, former sheriff of Sandusky county, came from York state to Sandusky by boat, then by an ox team and wagon to Fremont. He built a home at the end of Buchanan street, which was then surrounded by woods. When he was cutting down a tree it fell on his fire, and he had to go to a neighbor to borrow a fire-brand. We had to watch our fires, as well as our homes, in those days.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon began with a program of music by the Gibsonburg Boy Scout band. Addresses were given by Rev. R. B. Foster, pastor of the First M. E. Church of Fremont, Judge A. W. Overmyer, and State Senator Allen G. Aigler, of Bellevue, of which we have no report.

The program was prepared, as usual, by the secretary, Mr. B. A. Fouche, upon whom this work seems always to devolve.

Those registered were:

Al. Fought, 79, Fremont
Rev. John Todd, 68, Fremont
W. H. Schwartz, Fremont
Jas. A. Smith, Fremont
Mrs. Clara Dorr Heim, Fremont
Mrs. E. S. Loose, Fremont
Mrs. D. Burgoon, Fremont
Mrs. H. Rufty, Fremont
Mrs. Sarah Fought, 77, Fremont
J. C. Kline, 69, Fremont
Mrs. J. C. Kline, 63, Fremont
Joseph Levits, Fremont
R. W. Sherrard, Fremont
Mary Loose, Fremont
Mrs. Louise Bruner, Fremont
Fred Driftmyer, 74, Fremont
G. H. Waggoner, Sandusky Twp.
Lulu Bowman Finch
Ruth Linton
Mrs. M. J. Hix
D. L. Burgoon, 71
Mrs. Mahala Snyder
Mabelle Snyder
A. A. Stierwalt
Mrs. L. Wolf

Jas. A. Ryan, Sandusky

Rosana Fought, Lindsey
Elizabeth Siegenthaler, 79, Lindsey
J. L. Loose, 93, Lindsey
Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Waggoner, "
Betty Lucille Waggoner, Lindsey
Edwin Reed, 78, Lindsey

Mrs. Wm. Helle, Helena

Mrs. C. W. Fairbanks, Helena

Wm. C. Wierman, 80, Pt. Clinton
M. V. Wierman, 75, Pt. Clinton

Mrs. Harold Rodd, Gibsonburg
L. H. Fairbanks, Gibsonburg

Theo. Karbler, 67, Riley Twp.
J. L. Speak, 77, Riley Twp.
Jos. Hofelich, 76, Riley

Mrs. Julia Myers, 70, Woodville
Mrs. Fannie Stausmier, 71, "

Samuel Persing, 92, Clyde

Mrs. Catherine Flegel, Genoa

Levi Bloom, Oak Harbor

J. H. Gephart, 85, Burgoon

Meetings of Officers and Trustees

Meeting of Officers and Trustees February 1, 1930, Vice President, Waggoner in chair.

Death of Treasurer J. D. Hensel announced. Frank M. Bauman elected to succeed.

Bill of Frank Johnson, florist for $7 for spray for J. D. Hensel, presented and ordered paid.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Meeting of Officers and Trustees at Birchard Library, 1:30 P. M., April 26, 1930, President Schwartz in chair.

Secretary authorized to secure an assistant to edit Year-book at an expense for editing not to exceed $50.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

Adjourned meeting of Trustees and Officers, August 17, 1929, Vice President Waggoner in the chair.

Mr. Schwartz arrived after roll call and assumed the chair.

Mr. Nagel, Mr. Hensel, Mr. Loose, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Fouche, and Miss Snyder were re-elected by acclamation as Trustees.

L. A. Taylor elected for three years to succeed Mr. Mason.

Officers elected: W. H. Schwartz, President; Geo. H. Waggoner, Vice President; J. D. Hensel, Treasurer; B. A. Fouche, Secretary.

Decided to publish year-book in 1930.

Office of Historian created. Mr. Warner elected.

Committee on Year-book elected: Mr. Fouche, Chairman; Mr. Warner and Mr. Schwartz.

B. A. Fouche, Sec.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF TREASURER F. M. BAUMANN

1929—

December 1.—Received from Former Treas., J. D. Hensel....$511.14

1930—

March 8—Paid Frank Johnson for flowers for J. D. Hensel	$7.00	
May 30—Paid W. H. Watts	25.00	
May 30—Paid P. M. Trueman, Taxi	1.00	
May 30—Paid B. A. Fouche	2.00	
May 30—Paid E. C. Sturm, for typewriter	5.00	
July 28—Paid T. J. Maxwell on printing	75.00	
July 28—Paid W. H. Watts	25.00	
July 28—Paid P. M. Trueman, Taxi	1.50	
		141.50
		$369.64
Interest and other money		23.36
Balance in Treasury, July 5, 1930		$393.00

Early History of Scott Township

Contributed by John J. Lehmann, Attorney

Rollersville is a small unincorporated village in the northwest part of the township and was named after Henry Roller, one of the earliest settlers. Greensburg, now Tinney, was named after Judge John L. Green. Sr., then a resident of Lower Sandusky. Scott Township is the only township in the county that has no railroad. The surface of the township is level and the soil is fertile. There are two prairies in the south and southwest of the township. A sand ridge separates them and the one to the south is known as the South or Tauwa Prairie and the one to the north is known as the North Prairie. The soil of the South Prairie is of the most fertile lands in the township. The writer well remembers when those prairies were all under water for a great portion of the time in the spring and when first plowed up a great many elk horns were unearthed. When ditches were dug logs were found several feet below the surface. In the early days these prairies furnished a tall grass, known as prairie grass which was cut and dried for feed for the cattle in winter time. This grass grew as tall as a man and it is said that Leodegar Lehmann when a young man took a yoke of oxen and dragged a log back and forth across the prairie so as to make a path to travel by to see his girl who lived further to the south, and that one time returning at dusk, at the edge of the forest, was threatened to be attacked by wolves, but when he threw down his coat to climb a tree the wolf became frightened and turned back while he quickly ran across the prairie. On the sand ridge was an Indian trail about six inches deep and about one foot wide worn so by the ponies used by the Indians and leading off to Upper Sandusky. When the Roush and Lehmann families set-

Scott Township was organized April 8th, 1830, and was named after Merritt Scott, one of the earliest settlers. Among the other earliest settlers of Scott Township were: Lewis Jennings, S. P. Hathaway, Henry Roller, James Donnell, Reuben McDaniels. John Roush, John Harpster, Isaac Miller, Samuel Miller, Jacob Rinehart, Jerimiah ("Jug") Brown, George Snyder, Daniel Long and others. Among those of the early pioneers whom the writer knew personally and well remembers were: Leopold Lehmann, grandfather and Leodegar Lehmann, father, who settled in Scott Township in the year 1834 and Daniel Roush, Sr., who came with his parents in the year 1833. Others remembered are: Martin Wright, Levi Wright, William Wright, Dr. J. C. Thompson, Valentine Brown, David Vandersall, David Phillips, Adam Zimmerman, Benjamine Fausey, Josiah Zimmerman, George Ellsworth, Elijah Earl, John Hummell, Robert Huff, Daniel Smith, George Gries, D. S. Tinney, Haman McDaniels, M. J. Bowe, Daniel Earl, Daniel Smith, Richard Smith, John Mowery, Sam Martin, Adam Bates, Jacob Bowe, D W. Bowe, Abel Manchester, Samuel Hartman, Leonard Smith, Henry Shultz, James Inman, Mike Roush, John Stahl, Benjamine Inman, Samuel Sprought, Elisha Moore, I. N. Solomon, Jos. Cessna, Jacob Fry, Henry Phillips, Sylvester Phillips, David Winchell, John Brian, Eli Kline, Christian Myers, Albert Myers, Adam Bair, M. Putman, Sr., John Houts, Zack Houts, John C. Taylor, A. B. Taylor, Michael Stahl, Joseph Kiser, Sr., Joseph Kiser, Jr., Mart Geesley, (pioneer shoemaker), Stephen Day, Horrace Smith, J. C. Foreiter, John Orwig, M. Putman, Sr., Alvin Gossard, W. H. K. Gossard, Jackson Gossard and others.

tled in the township near where Trinity Church now is built a family of Indians were still there and remained about one year when they left for Upper Sandusky, following the trail.

In many years when these sand ridges were being plowed all kinds of Indian relics were plowed up, such as flints, skinning stones and stone hammers.

For a number of years following the year 1890 the oil industry in the township was quie extensive and was a great help to many of the farmers. As many as two thousand wells were in operation at one time.

Scott Township always took a great interest in her public schools and produced some of the best teachers in the county. Among the earliest teachers were, Rebecca Shively, Daniel Long, Sarah Long, L. M. Snyder, Samuel Long, Drusilla Gossard, Ellen C. Wright, and Levi Wright. Those later were, W. H. K. Gossard, A. R. Forgraves, M. Putman, Jr., Frank O'Farrell, Mary O'Farrell, Mary Gossard, "Limpa" Jackson, C. W. Binton, Frank J. Tinney, G. F. Aldrich, A. W. Tinney, Charles Tinney, Donna Jennings, G. C. Sheffler, A. W. Gossard, Frank Inman, Elmer Angus, Emanuel Shultz, John J. Lehmann, R. W. Solomon and others. Scott Township has abandoned all local school districts and the pupils are now being sent to Rising Sun, Rollersville, Helena and Jackson Township, Seneca County. The roads throughout the township are in good condition and the pupils are transported to the different schools by School Busses.

PART THREE---NECROLOGY

Lucy Elliot Keeler

Since the last annual meeting of the Association we have to regret the passing of Miss Lucy E. Keeler, who departed this life from Memorial hospital, Tuesday, March 11, 1930. The remains were taken to the home of her close personal friend Miss Fannie Pease, 413 Park Ave., Fremont, and were carried to their last resting place in the family plot in Oakwood cemetery after a plain and simple ceremony, as the deceased had requested, in the parlors of the First Presbyterian Church of Fremont. Rev. J. R. Walter, pastor of the Church, officiated. Perhaps the best obituary we can offer to the memory of the departed is her own written account of her life and literary services, reserved for publication until after her death, and somewhat abridged for our space.

"Lucy Elliot Keeler, youngest child of Isaac M. and Janette Elliot Keeler, was born September 27, 1864, in Fremont, Ohio, in the house at 417 Birchard Ave., which was always her home. She attended the Fremont public schools and Wells College, but her education was life long, since she was a student by nature and vocation. After leaving college she joined the correspondence school of Miss Anna Ticknor of Boston, for two years as a student, and for some fifteen or more years as instructor in American history. This work was gratuitous, but highly interesting. The annual meetings were held at the Ticknor house in Boston, and President Elliot of Harvard, Dr. Samuel Elliot, head of the Boston schools, and others attended and addressed them. After Miss Ticknor's death the society was continued for a time with Miss Keeler on the board of management. It was to further publicity for this society that Miss Keeler published for a year a jolly little monthly called Pot Pourri, which had a circulation from Maine to California.

"For many years Miss Keeler wrote regularly and at length for the Fremont Journal, owned and edited by her father and before she was out of her teens was doing paying writing for other papers. The Christian Union, edited by Lyman Abbott and its successor The Outlook published many of her articles and she wrote a large number of 'The Spectators,' a series of weekly papers largely done by Hamilton Mabie. The Boston Congregationalist published everything she sent it and Outing, Ladies' Home Journal, Harper's Weekly and Bazaar did the same.

"For ten years she wrote weekly editorials for the Youth's Companion, but wishing to do more writing for adults Miss Keeler began writing for 'The Point of View' of Scribner's Magazine and the anonymous article essays, together with others in the Contributors' Club of the Atlantic Monthly were widely reprinted and commented upon. She turned from anonymous work in 1913 and began contributing signed articles to the Atlantic Monthly.

Local History

Miss Keeler's interest in local history is shown by a list of monographs, most of which were first published in the Ohio Archaeological and Historical publications, including: The Sandusky River, A Guide to the Local History of Fremont, Ohio, Prior to 1860; Old Fort Sandoski of 1745 and the Sandusky Country, Old Fort Sandoski and the de Lery Por-

tage, 93rd Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Stephenson, Spiegel Grove, The Centennial of Croghan's Victory, Dedication of the Hayes Memorial Library, Unveiling of the Memorial Tablet on the Hayes Memorial Biulding, The Centenary Celebration of the Birth of R. B. Hayes; Main Street, Fremont, Ohio; Pageant Commemorating the Centenary of the First Common Pleas Court of Sandusky County.

"In her younger days Miss Keeler published two books: 'If I Were a Girl Again' and 'If I Were a Boy.' When the 'Fathers and Sons' series of books was issued some years ago for subscription sale, the editor wrote asking Miss Keeler to contribute three articles.

Ancestry

"Miss Keeler was descended from Puritan stock. Her grandfather and great grandfather, Eli and Luke Keeler, were two of the original proprietors of Norwalk, Ohio, being of the Connecticut Fireland sufferers who were granted lands in the Western Reserve, and her father was the first child baptised in the Episcopal church of Norwalk, of which his grandfather was the first Junior Warden. Ralph Keeler, the immigrant, owned a lot in Hartford, Conn., in 1640; and was one of the original settlers of Norwalk, Conn.

"Her paternal grandmother was a Marvin, (Matthew Marvin, the immigrant, was an original proprietor of Norwalk, Ohio) and her great grandmother Benedict was a descendent of Thomas Benedict who helped found the first Presbyterian Church in America, in Jamaica, Long Island, in 1662, and who was also a delegate to the first English legislative body convened in New York.

"On Miss Keeler's mother's side the line is quite as interesting. Her grandfather, Judge Samuel Elliot, author, lawyer, orator, large property owner of Battleboro, Vermont, a friend and correspondent of John Quincy Adams, was again and again in the Vermont legislature. Judge Elliot married Winda Hayes, daughter of Rutherford Hayes, aunt of the future president. Rutherford Hayes and his father Ezekiel were both in the Revolutionary war, and great grandmother Hayes' father, Israel Smith, whose forebears of that name figure in the earlies annals of old Hadley, was Miss Keeler's third Revolutionary ancestor on her mother's side. An ancestor of much interest was Rev. John Russell 'the greatest hero of Hadley,' who led his flock from Wethersfield,Mass., to found Hadley in the wilderness, and who sheltered in his own house the regicides, Whalley and Goffe.

Local Labors

"Miss Keeler was one of the charter members of the Matinee Musical Club and also of the Col. George Croghan Chapter D. A. R.; and of the Neighborhood Club—the first of a series of study clubs organized one winter of which the Cosmopolitan, Coterie and Sorosis have survived to this day.

"She joined the Presbyterian Church under the pastorate of Rev. Chas. E. Barnes and for many years taught a class of boys under the name of the Honorable Club. She was a life member of the Ohio Archeological and Historical Society, a trustee of the Sandusky County Historical Society and a member of the Hayes Memorial Book Committee, appointed by Gov. Campbell.

"Miss Keeler's most important work perhaps was in the reorganization of Birchard Library. For eight years she worked an average of five hours a day, but often ten hours a day. Probably nobody but herself even began to know the effort she put forth, the criticism she had to bear, the arduous physical and mental toil needed to put the library in such shape as she left it. A survey that she prepared in 1922, on resigning from the Board, and a large scrap book full of printed notes from her hand, which she left to the Library, are slight tokens of her efforts and her success. She felt that in that work she was truly benefitting the Fremont she loved so well.

Loved Flowers

"Miss Keeler was an ardent gardener, and her half-acre homestead and flower garden became famous through her writings about it in the

Atlantic, Scribner's, The Garden, House Beautiful and syndicate newspaper articles. Strangers from as far as California frequently came to her door asking to see the garden of which they had read. She was a member of the American Rose Society.

"Miss Keeler was for many years a member of the Lake Mohonk Conferences, where she had the pleasure of meeting many people of great distinction. As a girl of fifteen she visited in the White House with the Hayes family. She lived several months in Italy and traveled in Europe shortly before the World War. She spent several winters in Bermuda with her cousin, Mrs. Russel Hastings, where she constantly met the officials and most of the American visitors, including Mark Twain, who used to come up every afternoon to tea. Some of the most interesting reminiscences of President and Mrs. Hayes have been made public through Miss Keeler's notes and writings."

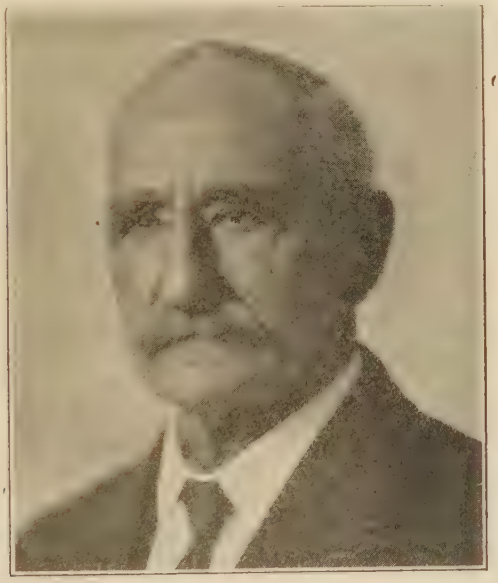
JAMES D. HENSEL

James D. Hensel was born in Sandusky Township February 19, 1849, a son of Adam and Mary J. Benner Hensel, who were among the early settlers of Sandusky County. He was found dead in bed Christmas morning, 1929, on the home farm where he had lived his entire life, having passed away quietly in his sleep by heart failure. He had spent the previous evening listening to the radio and writing checks as presents for his wife and daughters, and had planned to enjoy a family dinner on Christmas day.

The funeral was conducted by Rev. I. Rothenberger at 2 P. M., Saturday, December 28, Byron A. Fouche contributing a verbal tribute of appreciation of the departed. The remains were interred in the Hensel family plot in the Four Mile House Cemetery.

Mr. Hensel is survived by the widow, Mrs. Margeret S. Wolfe Hensel, two children: Nora, the wife of Richard C. Willer, of Sandusky Township, and Miss Mabel Hensel, and one sister, Mrs. W. S. Diggs of Pittsburgh. Three others of his children preceded him in death. He was also an uncle of Mrs. George Hoot.

Mr. Hensel was a Democrat in politics and served his township as trustee for a number of years. He was a member and for many years an official in the Four Mile House Reformed Church, and for thirty years served as treasurer of the Sandusky County Pioneer and Historical Society, never missing an annual meeting of the association. A kindly husband and father and a genial friend, his well known honesty and integrity always commanded the utmost respect of his fellow men.



JAMES D. HENSEL

FRANK R. HAVENS

Frank R. Havens, born in Jackson Township, Sandusky County, Ohio, January 11, 1861, died in Memorial Hospital, Fremont, Ohio, Friday, March 14, 1930, at the age of sixty-nine. He spent his early years on his father's farm in what was known formerly as the Black Swamp district. He married Avilda Jane Winters, daughter of Jeremiah and Amanda Voorhies Winters, and was the father of five children, all of whom survive. His wife preceded him in death by some two months.

Surviving him are one daughter, Mrs. Webb Smith of Jackson Township, four sons: Flavel Havens of Fostoria, Robert G. and Ray Havens of Jackson and Willis Havens of Ballville, and two sisters: Anna M. Voorhies of Toledo, Mrs. Emma J. Ritter, of Jackson Township, three brothers: John and Charles Havens of Burgoon, and O. B. Havens of Jonesville, Mich. Three brothers and one sister preceded Mr. Havens in death.

The last rites were conducted at the First Methodist Church of Fremont, of which the deceased was a member and faithful attendant, by the pastor, Rev. R. B. Foster, Monday afternoon, March 17, 1930, and burial was made in Oakwood Cemetery.

Mr. Havens was a farmer and stock raiser on a large scale. He was actively interested in politics as a Republican and filled various township offices. He was also one of the founders of the Colonial bank.

KATHERINE SHELDON

Since the last annual meeting of this society Fremont has had to regret the death of a lady who was devoted to teaching the subject which is our special interest. Miss Katherine Sheldon had been teacher of History and Latin in the Fremont High School for nine years. Born June 8, 1885, in the family home at 325 Arch St., Fremont, she received her education first in the Fremont public schools, and later at Oberlin Academy and Oberlin College. After graduation she taught in Rockport, Ill., Berlin Heights, Ohio, Milan, Ohio, and then in 1921 began her work in Fremont. She passed away at Memorial Hospital, Thursday, March 21, 1930, after a very short illness.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, the Mary Fitch Circle of King's Daughters, the Coterie Literary Club, D. A. R., and the American Legion Auxiliary; also the city Federation of Women's Clubs and the Business and Professional Women's Club.

We reprint here the resolutions of sorrow passed by the Edgar Thurston Post, No. 121, American Legion Auxiliary, of which she was the first president:

Whereas—In the death of the late Miss Katherine Sheldon, the Auxiliary of the Edgar Thurston Post, No. 121, American Legion, feels that it has lost one of its most valued and loyal members and desires spread upon the minutes of this Auxiliary this testimonial of the esteem in which Miss Sheldon was held by the other members, it is therefore resolved:

That the members of this Auxiliary hereby express their sincere heartfelt sorrow and regret at the death of Miss Sheldon and will ever cherish her in memory of this Auxiliary and seek to emulate her fine qualities, and

Resolved Further—That we extend to her family our heart-felt sympathy, and

Resolved Further—That copies of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Auxiliary, and that copies be given to the father and members of the family of our deceased member.

Mrs. Lottie B. Shaw,
Mrs. Estella G. Heflinger,
Lois G. Felsted.

Resolution Committee.
American Legion Auxiliary,
Post No. 121.

America's Oldest Twins

Bruns Brothers Came To America 78 Years Ago

Until recently Sandusky County boasted the oldest twins in America: William H. Bruns and John Henry Bruns of Woodville.

The Bruns twins came to the United States from Hanover when they were eighteen. William's first job was working for his uncle in his grocery store in New York city for $3 a month and board. The boys saved practically all of their wages and soon were able to bring their mother to this country. Their father had died before they left Europe.

In 1860 the brothers moved to Toledo and four years later settled in Woodville, which has since been their home. They engaged in farming, milling, merchandising, and William in banking in Toledo.

In the early days the Bruns brothers used to walk the twenty miles to Toledo. There were no railroads and no bridges. The Maumee river was crossed by ferry. In winter they walked on the ice or crawled on their hands and knees, if the thinness of the ice indicated that a greater "spread" was necessary to avoid a plunge.

The Bruns twins were long interested in Mark and Matthew Gunn, twins of Brighton, England, who are the only pair that they have been able to hear of in recent years older than themselves.

John Henry Bruns died of the weakness of old age September 18, 1929, at the age of 95 years, 7 months and 14 days.

GREENE COUNTY ROOM
GREENE COUNTY LIBRARY
76 EAST MARKET STREET
XENIA, OH 45385

GREENE COUNTY ROOM
GREENE COUNTY LIBRARY
76 EAST MARKET STREET
XENIA, OH 45385

Maxwell, Printer, Fremont, O